

GENERAL AWARENESS

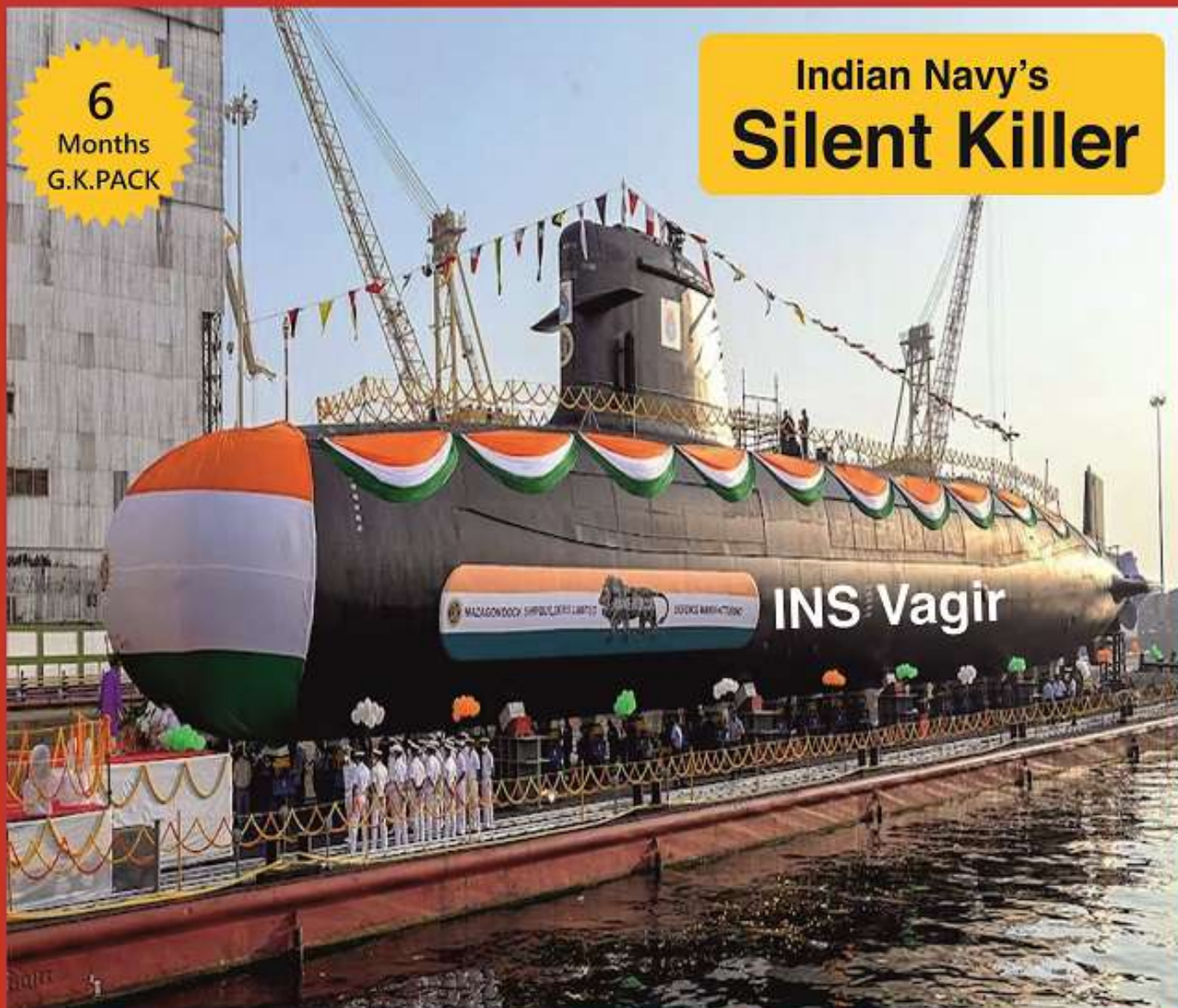
MARCH 2023

Gyanm

6

Months
G.K.PACK

Indian Navy's Silent Killer



Upcoming Govt Exams (2023) Details Inside

BUDGET
2023-24

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GENERAL AWARENESS

Vol. 11, Issue 07

March 2023

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FIGURES TO REMEMBER

KEY RATE	RATE	FROM
Repo Rate	6.25%	7-12-22
Standing Deposit Facility	6.00%	7-12-22
Marginal Standing Facility	6.50%	7-12-22
Bank Rate	6.50%	7-12-22
Fixed Reverse Repo	3.35%	7-12-22
CRR	4.5%	7-12-22
SLR	18%	7-12-22

INDIA'S RANK IN

Hanley Passport Index: Jan 2023	85 th
Food Security Index (GFSI) 2022: Dec	8 th
Arton Capital Passport Index 2022: Dec	87 th
The Network Readiness Index: Nov.	61 st
Climate Change Performance Index: Nov.	8 th
Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index (CRII): Oct 2022	123 rd
Mercer CFA Global Pension Index: Oct 2022	41 st
Global Hunger Index: Oct 2022	107 th
Global Innovation Index: Sept 2022	40 th
Human Development Index: Sept 2022	132 nd
Global Unicorn Index: Sept 2022	03 rd
Global Gender Gap Index: Jul 2022	135 th
World Press Freedom Index: Jul 2022	150 th
World Competitiveness Index: June 2022	37 th
Environmental Performance Index: June 2022	180 th
Sustainable Development Report (SDR): June 2022	121 st
Travel & Tourism Development Index: May 2022	54 th
World Happiness Report: April 2022	136 th
The Wealth Report: March 2022	3 rd
International Intellectual property (IP) Index: Feb 2022	43 rd
Democracy Index: Feb 2022	46 th
Corruption Perceptions Index: Jan 2022	85 th
Global Health Security Index: Dec 2021	66 th
World Talent Ranking Report: Dec 2021	56 th

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NATIONAL NEWS

JANUARY

EGYPT'S PRESIDENT PRESIDES OVER REPUBLIC DAY PARADE



President of Egypt, Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, arrived in New Delhi on January 24, on a three-day visit to India.

President Sisi was the Chief Guest on India's 74th Republic Day Parade. This is for the first time that the President of Egypt has been invited as Chief Guest on Republic Day.

A military contingent from the Egyptian Army also participated in the Republic Day Parade. Egypt has also been invited as a 'Guest Country' during India's Presidency of G-20 in 2022-23.

'BHARAT PARV' TO CELEBRATE 75 YEARS

A special six-day event 'Bharaty Parv' was organised at the Red Fort Grounds in Delhi from Jan 26 to 31 to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of independence. It highlighted the history of India's people, culture, and country's achievements in the last 75 years.

Organised by the Central government, it aimed at highlighting branding and promotion of Dekho Apna Desh, Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, G20, and Mission LIFE, besides handicrafts of India.

A & N ISLANDS NAMED AFTER PVC AWARDEES

On the occasion of Parakram Diwas on Jan 23, 21 unnamed islands of Andaman-Nicobar were named after the 21 Param Vir Chakra awardees. This step will be an everlasting tribute to the country's heroes, who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect the sovereignty and integrity of the nation.

The largest unnamed island has been named as "Somnath Island" after the first Param Vir Chakra awardee, Major Somnath Sharma. The second largest island after the second Param Vir Chakra awardee, and so on.

Earlier in Dec 2018, in view of the historical significance of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Ross Island was renamed as Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Dweep to honour the memory of Netaji. Also, Neil Island and Havelock Island were also renamed Shaheed Dweep and Swaraj Dweep.

FIRST B20 MEET HELD AT GANDHINAGAR



The first B20 meet as part of the G20 was held from Jan 22 to 24 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat to deliberate upon adoption of sustainable and green business practices. More than 500 delegates deliberated upon various global issues including climate change, sustainability, digital transformation, and financial inclusion.

The delegates were also taken to India's maiden Financial Tech city- GIFT City to provide an overview of various financial and logistics facilities available at GIFT city.

G-20 HEALTH WORKING GROUP MEETING

The first Health Working Group meeting under India's G20 presidency was held from Jan 18 to 20 in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. The three-day meeting focused on thematic discussions on three main priorities – health emergencies: prevention, preparedness and response; strengthening cooperation in the pharmaceutical sector, and digital health innovations to support universal health coverage.

INDIA HOSTS VOICE OF GLOBAL SOUTH SUMMIT

In a new and unique initiative, India hosted a special virtual summit, the Voice of Global South summit, on January 12 and 13 under the theme 'Unity of Voice, Unity of Purpose'. The Summit aimed to bring together countries of the Global South to share their perspectives and priorities on a common platform.

More than 120 countries participated in the Summit. Global South refers to the developing and the less-developed countries of the world.

INDIA ANNOUNCES 'AAROGYA MAITRI' PROJECT

On the concluding day of the Voice of Global South Summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced a new 'Aarogya Maitri' project on Jan 13 under which India will provide essential medical supplies to any developing country affected by natural disasters or facing any other humanitarian crisis.



NEW LIGHT AND SOUND SHOW AT RED FORT

A new light and sound show titled 'Jai Hind' was launched on Jan 10 at the Red Fort in Delhi. The one hour show will be presented in Hindi and English Languages. Arranged by the Ministry of Culture and Archaeological Survey of India, this show is the latest version of a light and sound show, in which a dramatic presentation of bravery and the history of India from the 17th century to the present day will be shown.

The show will highlight the country's continuing progress over the past 75 years by using all forms of performance art - projection mapping, live-action films, light and immersive sound, actors, dancers, and puppets. It will bring to life key episodes from India's history including the rise of the Marathas, the 1857 War of Independence, the rise of the Indian National Army, and the fight for Independence.

17th PRAVASI BHARATIYA DIVAS



Indore, Madhya Pradesh, hosted the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas from January 8–10. The day is celebrated to acknowledge the contribution of the non-resident Indian community in helping in the development of the country. President of Guyana, Dr. Mohd. Irfan Ali was the chief guest and the President of Suriname, Chandrikaprasad Santokhi was the special guest for the inaugural ceremony.

The theme of the conference was "Pravasis: Reliable Partners in India's Progress in Amrit Kaal". This theme highlights the importance of the Indian diaspora in contributing to India's progress. Prime Minister Modi described them as brand ambassadors of Make in India, Yoga and Ayurveda, India's cottage industries and handicrafts, and India millets.

GANGA VILAS–WORLD'S LONGEST RIVER CRUISE

World's longest river cruise 'MV Ganga Vilas' was launched from Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh on 13th of January. The luxury cruise will cover a distance of more than 3,200 km in 51 days to reach Dibrugarh in Assam via Bangladesh, sailing across 27 river systems in India and Bangladesh.

The cruise will cover 50 tourist spots including World Heritage Sites, National Parks, River Ghats, and major cities like Patna in Bihar, Sahibganj in Jharkhand, Kolkata in West Bengal, Dhaka in Bangladesh and Guwahati in Assam.

The cruise vessel is 62 meters in length, 12 meters in width. It has three decks, 18 suites on board with a capacity of 36 tourists, with all the amenities to provide a memorable and luxurious experience for the tourists.

INDIAN WOMEN FORCE TO MONITOR SUDAN



India will deploy a platoon of women peacekeepers to the UN Mission in Sudan. This will be India's largest single unit of women Peacekeepers in a UN Mission since it deployed the first-ever all-women contingent in Liberia in 2007.

The Indian contingent, comprising two officers and 25 other ranks, will form part of an engagement platoon and specialise in community outreach, though they will be performing extensive security-related tasks as well. Their mission will be to monitor the flashpoint border between north and south Sudans and facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid. They are also authorised to use force in protecting civilians and humanitarian workers in Abyei, a disputed area on the Sudan-South Sudan border.

INDIA TO HEAD ASIAN PACIFIC POSTAL UNION

India will take over the leadership of the Asian-Pacific Postal Union (APPU) having its Headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand from this month. Vinay Prakash Singh, a former member of Indian Postal Service Board has been elected as the General Secretary of the APPU.

APPU is an intergovernmental organisation of 32 member countries of the Asia-Pacific region. It is affiliated with the Universal Postal Union (UPU), a specialised agency of the United Nations. The goal of APPU is to extend, facilitate and improve postal relations between member countries and to promote cooperation in the field of postal services.

108th INDIAN SCIENCE CONGRESS HELD

The 108th annual session of ISC– Indian Science Congress, was inaugurated on Jan 3 at Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University in Nagpur, Maharashtra. The focal theme of this year's ISC is Science and Technology for Sustainable Development with Women Empowerment. It will witness discussions on issues of sustainable development, women empowerment and the role of science and technology.

Besides the main event, the Children's Science Congress was held to help stimulate scientific interest and temperament among children. Farmer's Science Congress aimed to improve the bio-economy and attract youth to agriculture. A Tribal Science Congress was also held focusing on the empowerment of tribal women.

ISC is the biggest gathering of prominent Indian and foreign scientists, including Nobel laureates, held annually in the first week of January. It is organised by the ISC Association, Kolkata. The first session of the ISC was held in 1914 at the Asiatic Society in Calcutta.

THEME RELEASED FOR NATIONAL SCIENCE DAY

The theme for this year's National Science Day to be observed on Feb 28 has been selected as "Global Science for Global Wellbeing". The theme released on Jan 9 aims to raise public appreciation of scientific issues in a global context which is having a bearing on global well-being.

It also highlights that Indian scientific breakthroughs have reached from the lab to the land. The applications of science are being used by every household to bring ease of living for the common man.

National Science Day is celebrated every year to commemorate the discovery of the Raman Effect by Indian Physicist Sir C V Raman.

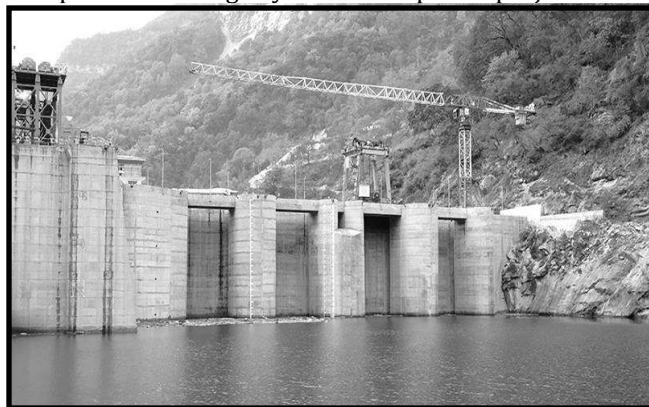
INDIA, AUSTRALIA ECTA COMES IN TO EFFECT

India, Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement, ECTA, came into force from Dec 29. The two nations signed the Agreement on April 02 this year. Under this trade agreement, Indian exports will benefit from preferential zero-duty market access in Australia for 100 per cent of its tariff lines.

On the other hand, Australia, which is largely dependent on imports, will benefit hugely, as it will soon start seeing a lot more finished goods coming in from India, providing a huge amount of work and job opportunities locally.

MANGDECHHU HYDRO POWER PROJECT

The Indian government handed over on Dec 27 the 720 MW Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Power Project to the Druk Green Power Corporation (DGPC) in Bhutan. The run-of-river power plant, built with Indian assistance on the Mangdechhu River in Trongsa Dzongkhag district of central Bhutan at a cost of Rs 4,500-crore, is seen as a symbol of friendship between the two countries. With this handing over, the two countries have successfully completed four mega hydroelectric power projects.



INDIA IS 4th MOST POWERFUL COUNTRY



The Global Firepower Report 2023 has ranked India as the 4th most powerful army among the 145 countries ranked by the report. The Power Index gives scoring in reverse scale wherein the top country is one with the least score. The most powerful country in the world is the USA with a score of 0.0712, followed by Russia (0.0714), China (0.0722) and India (0.1025).

The index ranks countries based on troop strength, national resources, financial status, logistics and geographic scale.

DELHI REMAINS MOST POLLUTED CITY

According to an analysis of Central Pollution Control Board data, Delhi was the most polluted city in India in 2022 with PM 2.5 levels more than double the safe limit and the third highest average PM10 concentration.

This is despite the fact that PM2.5 pollution in the national capital has come down by over 7 per cent in four years, from 108 micrograms per cubic meter in 2019 to 99.71 micrograms per cubic meter in 2022.

Among the most polluted cities with respect to PM2.5 levels, Haryana's Faridabad (95.64 micrograms per cubic meter) ranked second and Uttar Pradesh's Ghaziabad (91.25 micrograms per cubic meter) third.

In terms of PM10 levels, Ghaziabad was the most polluted non-attainment city with a level of 217.57 micrograms per cubic meter, more than 3.5 times of safe limits. Faridabad (215.39) ranked second and Delhi (213.23) stood third.

PM2.5 refers to micro-Particulate Matter (PM) that is less than 2.5 microns (a micron is 10,000th of a centimetre) in diameter and can enter the lungs and bloodstream. PM10 are very small particles found in dust and smoke. They have a diameter of 10 micrometres (0.01 mm) or less. PM10 particles are a common air pollutant.

The country's current annual average safe limits for PM2.5 and PM10 are up to 40 micrograms per cubic metre and 60 micrograms per cubic metre, respectively. One Microgram is one millionth of a gram.

FIRST EVER BATCH OF 'AGNIVEERS' READY

The first ever batch of 'AGNIVEERS' selected under the Government of India sponsored AGNIPATH scheme joined the Indian Army for training as AGNIVEER General Duty. Approximately 200 candidates selected after rigorous tests including physical tests, medical tests, written examination and document verification, were dispatched from Army Recruiting Office, Srinagar (J&K) to about 30 training centres of various Regiments of the Indian Army on 24 December 2022.

The candidates will report for training between 25 to 30 December 2022 and their training shall commence with effect from 01 January 2023.

DRDO TO SAFEGUARD HILLY POWER PROJECTS

The Union Ministry of Power signed a MoU with DRDO on Dec 27 for implementation of Early Warning System (EWS) for vulnerable Hydro Projects/Power Stations located in disaster-prone mountainous regions. Under the MoU, the Ministry of Power and DRDO will jointly work towards developing suitable mitigation measures against avalanches, landslides, glaciers, glacial lakes and other geo-hazards.

The DRDO will use expertise of its Defence Geo-informatics Research Establishment in developing a comprehensive EWS for these vulnerable hilly projects.

An EWS is an integrated system of hazard monitoring, forecasting and prediction, disaster risk assessment, communication and preparedness for timely action to reduce disaster risks in advance of hazardous occurrences.

3 SITES ADDED TO UNESCO HERITAGE LIST

Three more heritage sites from India were added to UNESCO's Tentative List of World Heritage Sites announced on Dec 20. The sites include Vadnagar – a multi-layered historic town and Modhera Sun Temple, both in district Mehsana, Gujarat. Third site is Rock-cut Sculptures and Reliefs of the Unakoti, in district Unakoti of Tripura.

As per the UNESCO website, "A Tentative List is an inventory of those properties which each State Party intends to consider for nomination." The Tentative Lists are published by the World Heritage Centre at its website and/or in working documents in order to ensure transparency, access to information and to facilitate harmonisation of Tentative Lists at regional and thematic levels.



“YOUTH CO:LAB” LAUNCHED IN NEW DELHI



The 5th edition of Youth Co:Lab, Asia Pacific's largest youth innovation movement was jointly launched by Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog and UNDP India on December 15 in New Delhi. Thirty early-stage start-ups would be supported by the springboard programme, and the best would be provided a seed grant for scaling up their start-up.

Youth Co:Lab initiative was launched in 2019 by UNDP India in partnership with Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog to establish a common agenda for Asia-Pacific countries to invest in and empower youth to accelerate implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through leadership, social innovation, and entrepreneurship.

Till date, it has been implemented in 28 countries, reaching over 200,000 participants, benefitting more than 11,000 young social entrepreneurs and supporting over 1,240 social enterprises.

‘GROUP OF FRIENDS’ LAUNCHED BY INDIA

India launched a ‘Group of Friends’ on Dec 15 during its presidency of the UN Security Council, to promote accountability for crimes against UN peacekeepers. India, Bangladesh, Egypt, France, Morocco and Nepal are co-chairs of the ‘Group of Friends to Promote Accountability for Crimes Against Peacekeepers’.

A concept note on the Group of Friends said that it will seek to facilitate the promotion of accountability for all acts of violence against United Nations peacekeepers; seek facilitation of capacity building and technical assistance to the host state authorities.

Data showed that in the last three years alone, 68 peacekeepers belonging to 20 countries have lost lives for the cause of peace. India, being one of the largest troop-contributing countries to UN peacekeeping, lost 177 of its peacekeepers in the line of duty, the largest by far from any troop-contributing country.

INDIA ASSUMES PRESIDENCY OF G-20

India formally assumed the Presidency of G-20 grouping on Dec 01 for the period of one year, ending Nov 30, 2023. The Group of 20 meets every year to discuss global issues. To mark the occasion, 100 monuments will be lit up across the country with the G-20 logo. During the G-20 presidency, India will hold about 200 meetings in 32 different sectors in multiple locations across India, beginning with the meeting of G20 Sherpas from Dec 4 to 7 in Udaipur.

The Prime Minister Sh. Modi stated on the occasion that India's G-20 presidency will work to promote universal sense of oneness in line with India's theme of “One Earth, One Family, One Future”. He said, this is not just a slogan but it takes into account recent changes in human circumstances, which we have collectively failed to appreciate.

The Ministry of External Affairs stated that during India's Presidency, the focus will be on ensuring citizen participation in the events to be organised to take G-20 closer to the public and try to make it a people's Group.

UDAIPUR HOSTS G20 SHERPA MEETING

The first G20 Sherpa Meeting under India's Presidency, was held in the lake city of Udaipur in Rajasthan from 4 to 7 December. India's G20 Sherpa, Amitabh Kant presided over the four-day meeting. Representatives of 19 countries including from the European Union and nine special invitee countries took part in the meeting. Special wall paintings depicting rich Indian cultural heritage were made across the city and various heritage sites were illuminated to welcome the VIP guests.

The meeting aimed at fostering growth and building bonds amongst the member nations. The first G20 Sherpa Meeting sets the tone and agenda for future meetings, during which, India will have the opportunity to convene discussions on shared global priorities with G20 Members and guests.

A sherpa is the personal representative of a head of state or head of government who makes initial preparations for some big international summit, such as the annual G7 and G20 summits.

INDIA TAKES OVER UNSC PRESIDENCY

India took over the rotating Presidency of the 15-nation UN Security Council on Dec 01 for the month of December, during which it will host signature events on countering terrorism and reformed multilateralism. Incidentally, India's 2021-2022 term in the UNSC also ends on December 31, 2022.

India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj will sit in the President's seat at the horse-shoe table in the UN headquarters in New York.



FCBD SUMMIT HELD IN BENGALURU



The first G20 Finance and Central Bank Deputies (FCBD) summit took place in Bengaluru from 13 to 15 December. This meeting marked the start of discussions on the Finance Track agenda under the Indian G20 Presidency. The summit was hosted jointly by the Ministry of Finance and the Reserve Bank of India. It saw a gathering of over 160 foreign delegates including Deputies from G20 member countries, invitee countries, and International Organisations.

This summit will pave the way for the first G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting to be held on February 23-25 in Bengaluru.

INDIA TO HEAD WASSENAAR ARRANGEMENT

The External Affairs Ministry has said that India will assume the chairmanship of the Wassenaar Arrangement on the 1st of January, 2023. Wassenaar Arrangement is a multilateral export control regime wherein its 42 member states exchange information on various issues like transfer of conventional weapons and dual-use goods and technologies.

The Wassenaar Arrangement was formally established as a voluntary export control regime in July 1996. The name Wassenaar comes from a suburb of The Hague, Netherlands, where the arrangement was established.

FIRST GANDHI STATUE AT UN HEADQUARTERS

A statue (bust) of Mahatma Gandhi was unveiled by India's Foreign Minister S Jaishankar at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, on Dec 14 in the presence of UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. He said Mahatma Gandhi was an uncompromising advocate for peaceful co-existence, non-discrimination and pluralism. The statue will serve as a reminder of the values Gandhi upheld, and to which we must remain committed.

The bust of Mahatma Gandhi, a gift by India, is the first sculpture of Gandhi to be permanently located at the North Lawn Gardens of the United Nations. The sculptor of the bust is Ram Vanji Sutar, who made the Statue of Unity.

RLYS WIN 9 ENERGY CONSERVATION PRIZES

The Indian Railways won nine National Energy Conservation Awards for the year 2022, with the South Central Railways bagging the first and second prize in railway stations category. The first prize was awarded for Kacheguda station (Telangana) and the second to Guntakal station (Andhra Pradesh) for energy conservation measures in railway stations category.

These awards were given on Dec 14 for the best energy management practices by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency under the aegis of the Ministry of Power.

ENERGY CONSERVATION (AMENDMENT) BILL

Parliament has passed the Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill, 2022 with Rajya Sabha approving it on Dec 12. The Bill seeks to amend the Energy Conservation Act, 2001. The new bill aims to promote energy efficiency and conservation.

The Bill empowers the Centre to specify a carbon credit trading scheme. The legislation also stipulates that designated consumers may be required to meet a proportion of their energy needs from non-fossil sources. The Energy Conservation Code for buildings will apply to office and residential buildings with a connected load of 100 kilowatt or above.

FIRST SILCHAR-SYLHET FESTIVAL

The first Silchar-Sylhet Festival celebrating the close cultural ties between India and the neighbouring regions of Bangladesh was held on Dec 2-3 in Silchar in Assam's Cachar district. Sylhet is a big city in Bangladesh, over 110 km west of Silchar. The festival provided a platform to explore multi-disciplinary trade opportunities in sectors such as healthcare, tourism, education and digital infrastructure.

The event hosted by the India Foundation, under the aegis of the Union Ministry of Culture in association with the Bangladesh Foundation for Regional Studies, celebrated 75 years of India's Independence and 51 years of Bangladesh's liberation from Pakistan.



WORLD'S FIRST INTRANASAL COVID VACCINE



Bharat Biotech International Ltd, Hyderabad became the first company in the world to receive approval from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) for its COVID-19 intranasal vaccine iNOVACC (BBV154) under the 'Restricted Emergency Use' for ages 18 and above in India. The vaccine was launched on the COWIN platform on Dec 23 for use by the general public.

The iNOVACC, a recombinant replication-deficient adenovirus vectored vaccine with a pre-fusion stabilised SARS-CoV-2 spike protein, is the world's first intranasal vaccine to receive both primary series and heterologous booster approval. Bharat Biotech is the producer of India's first indigenous COVID-19 vaccine, Covaxin.

MMR DOWN TO 97 PER LAKH LIVE BIRTHS

As per the Special Bulletin released by the Registrar General of India on Nov 28, for the years 2018 and 2020, India has witnessed a significant decline in the Maternal Mortality Ratio, MMR from 130 in 2014-16 to 97 per lakh live births in 2018-20. Upon achieving this, the country has accomplished the National Health Policy target for MMR of less than 100 per lakh live births and is on the right track to achieve the SDG target of MMR of less than 70 per lakh live births by 2030.

The number of states which have achieved the Sustainable Development Goal target has now risen from six to eight, led by Kerala @19, followed by Maharashtra (33), Telangana (43). The progress has been possible due to various healthcare initiatives of the government to ensure quality maternal and reproductive care.

MMR is defined as the number of maternal deaths per one lakh live births, during a given time period.

INDIA FARES WELL IN AVIATION SAFETY

As per the rankings released by the International Civil Aviation Organization, based in Montreal, Canada, India has jumped to the 48th position in the global aviation safety. The country's score in terms of effective implementation of key safety elements has improved to 85.49%. Four years ago, India was ranked at the 102nd position.

The higher ranking means that India has improved its air safety processes. Better aviation safety in home skies also allows Indian airlines to expand faster in overseas markets as permissions for new services are easier to get.

In the current ranking, Singapore is at the top, followed by the UAE and South Korea at the second and third positions, respectively.

INDIA JUMPS UP IN SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

The Science & Engineering Indicators 2022 report by the National Science Foundation-NSF of the USA shows that India's position in scientific publications has improved from 7th in 2010 to third in 2020. India's scholarly output increased from 60,555 papers in 2010 to 1,49,213 papers in 2020.

India also ranks third in terms of number of PhDs in science and engineering. The number of patents granted to Indian scientists at India Patent Office (IPO) increased to 5,629 in 2020-21.

China leads the world in the publication of the maximum number of scientific papers followed by the USA.

The NSF is an independent agency of the US government that supports fundamental research and education in all the non-medical fields of science and engineering.

INDIA MOVES UP IN FOOD SECURITY

British weekly The Economist released the 11th Global Food Security Index (GFSI) 2022 in the first week of December. The report shows a deterioration in the global food environment for the third successive year, threatening food security.

The index is topped by Finland with a score of 83.7, followed by Ireland (81.7) and Norway (80.5). India is ranked at 68th position along with Algeria with the overall score of 58.9. At the bottom was Syria with a score of 36.3. India moved three ranks up from its rank of 71 in 2021.

The GFSI considers four main issues of food affordability, availability, quality and safety, and sustainability and adaptation; across a set of 113 countries, based on 68 unique indicators.



INDIA RANKED LOW IN PASSPORT INDEX



Passport Index 2022 published by the Arton Capital, a Montreal based global citizenship advisory firm, ranked 199 passports on the basis of the number of countries a passport holder can enter without acquiring a visa.

The index was topped by UAE as its passport holders can travel to 180 countries without a visa. It is followed by 11 countries that include Germany, Sweden, Finland etc. which are allowed visa free entry to 173 countries. India stood at 87th rank with only 72 nations allowing it visa free entry. At the bottom was Afghanistan at 97th rank while Pakistan stood at 94th spot.

Arton Capital's Passport Index updates its rankings in real time as new visa waivers and changes are implemented, showing the current effects that covid travel bans and the war in Ukraine have on global mobility.

IPL TOPS THE GOOGLE SEARCH IN 2022

Google announced its 'Year in Search 2022' results for Indian users on Dec 06. It offers an insight into how and what people in the country have searched on the search engine during the year 2022. The most searched item was IPL - Indian Premier League, followed by the Cowin app and FIFA World Cup at the second and third spot, respectively.

Among the most searched personalities category, Nupur Sharma, ex- BJP spokesperson was at first spot, followed by President of India Droupadi Murmu and UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak.

Among other categories, the government's 'Agnepath Scheme' topped in the 'What is' category, followed by North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and non-fungible token (NFT).

Interestingly, the search for the dish Paneer Pasanda topped the global and India list when it came to the recipes category.

- ❖ **The Asian Development Bank** approved a \$ 250 million policy-based loan to support India's wide-ranging reforms that aim to strengthen and modernise the logistics infrastructure, improve efficiency and lower the costs.

NEWS FROM STATES

JANUARY

ASKA POLICE STATION BEST IN THE COUNTRY

Aska Police Station in Ganjam district of Odisha was ranked as the "Best Police Station" in the country in 2022 by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs. Ranking of police stations is an annual exercise conducted by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The stations are judged on the basis of 165 different parameters like crime rate, investigation and disposal of cases, infrastructure and delivery of public service. Around 20 percent of the total points are also based on feedback on police stations from citizens.

INDIA'S 1st CONSTITUTION LITERATE DISTRICT

In a unique achievement, district Kollam in Kerala became the first constitution literate district in the country. The announcement of the feat was made on Jan 14 by Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijaya. The district authorities along with local panchayats launched a seven-month long Constitution literacy campaign to reach this milestone.

Reportedly, around 16.3 lakh people, above 10 years of age, were educated by 2,200 trainers called 'senators', who visited schools, offices, auto stands and tribal councils to create awareness.

KERALA FIRST IN DIGITAL BANKING

Kerala became the first state in the country to go fully digital in its banking service. The announcement was made on Jan 7 by the chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan. The Kerala Fibre Optic Network (K-FON) project of the state government, which was almost 90 per cent completed, is the backbone behind this success. The K-FON will ensure internet facility to everyone in the state and a 17,155 km-long optic fibre cable network will make it possible.

INDIA'S FIRST FULL LIBRARY CONSTITUENCY

The Dharmadam assembly constituency in Kannur district of Kerala has achieved the milestone of the first complete library constituency in India. It is the constituency of P Vijayan, Kerala's Chief Minister. Out of the total



138 wards in the constituency, there were no libraries in 63 wards. A campaign was launched to open libraries in these wards too. The People's Mission for Social Development, a people's organisation, had taken up the work of establishing libraries and expanding the existing ones in Dharmadam constituency.

WORLD'S 1st PALM LEAF MANUSCRIPT MUSEUM



A palm-leaf manuscript museum with modern audio-visual technology set up by the Kerala Archives Department, was inaugurated in Thiruvananthapuram on Dec 22. Promoted as the world's first palm leaf manuscript museum, it houses a collection of unusual artefacts that relate to the political, social, and economic life of Travancore from 650 AD to the end of the 19th century. The 187 manuscripts at the museum include documents written on cured and treated palm leaves that were once relegated to the corners of the records rooms.

INDIA'S FIRST NILGIRI TAHR PROJECT

The Tamil Nadu government on Dec 28 approved India's first Nilgiri Tahr project with a layout of Rs. 25.14 crore. The project is aimed at conserving and protecting Nilgiri Tahr, Tamil Nadu's state animal. It is a wild goat-like wild animal with two backward bending curved horns. It is found in the jungles of Western Ghats. The government has developed the project for the Western Ghats' Nilgiri tahr, on the lines of elephant and tiger conservation programmes, since the animal is an endangered species.

MAHA 1st TO BRING CM UNDER LOKAYUKTA

Maharashtra became the first state in the country to pass the Lokayukta Bill 2022 in its assembly on Dec 28 that brings the chief minister and council of ministers under the ambit of the Lokayukta- the anti-corruption ombudsman. The Lokayukta shall have a Chairperson, who shall be a present or former Chief Justice of a High Court. Apart from this, there will be a judge of the Supreme Court or the Bombay High Court. The Lokayukta shall have a maximum of four members, of whom two shall be from the judiciary.

As per the bill, prior approval of the Assembly has to be obtained and the motion has to be placed before the immediate session of the House before initiating any inquiry against the chief minister.

J&K BECOMES FIRST DIGITAL UT

Jammu & Kashmir became the first union territory in India to completely switch to a digital method of administration, leading the way in the digital transformation of governance. All governmental and administrative services in Jammu & Kashmir are currently offered only digitally.

KERALA'S 1st INTERNATIONAL BEACH FESTIVAL

The Kerala government organised the first 'International Beach Festival' against the backdrop of the Bekal Fort at Bekal, near Kasargod in Kerala. Around 1,000 artists from abroad and India performed at the 10-day beach festival that was inaugurated on Dec 24. A wide variety of traditional and futuristic cultural events, including robotics and AI based events were held at the festival.

H'BAD: CENTRE FOR 4th IND. REVOLUTION

Capital of Telangana, Hyderabad has been identified as the World Economic Forum's 18th Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (C4IR). To be established soon, it will promote development and adoption of newer technologies including genomics, personalised medicine and healthcare manufacturing.

Telangana is one of Asia's major centres for the biological sciences and is known as the vaccine capital of the world, producing one-third of all vaccines produced globally.

The Fourth Industrial Revolution is a way of describing the blurring of boundaries between the physical, digital, and biological worlds. It represents a fundamental change in the way we live, work and relate to one another. It's a fusion of advances in artificial intelligence (AI), robotics, the Internet of Things (IoT), 3D printing, genetic engineering, quantum computing, and other such advanced technologies.

TN TO CLEAN AND CONSERVE GULF OF MANNAR

The Tamil Nadu Forest Department (TNFD) joined hands with HCL Foundation, the CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) arm of HCLTech, for promoting marine and coastal conservation by resolving the ghost net and marine debris problem in the Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park in the state.

Discarded or lost fishing gear, known as 'ghost nets', pose a severe threat to coastal and marine habitats. Marine ecosystems are one of the most diverse ecosystems on the planet accounting for 50 per cent of the oxygen generated on the earth.

Gulf of Mannar, India's first Marine National Park and one of the largest biosphere reserves, is highly affected due to unsustainable fishing practices, dumping of plastics and ghost nets, which pose a serious threat to marine life. The fishermen communities along the coast of Chennai were directly engaged in this model to retrieve 57,000 kg of ghost nets and marine debris.



'UP GLOBAL CITY' CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED



The government of Uttar Pradesh launched on Jan 07 a statewide 100-day 'UP Global City' campaign aimed at transforming the lifestyle of urban bodies of the state on par with global standards. The campaign has been launched in all the 762 urban bodies in the state.

It will focus on improving urban facilities such as air quality, better cleanliness, beautification and installation of better road signages. It will also cover proper disposal of garbage and solid waste management.

\$125 MN ADB LOAN FOR TAMIL NADU

Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$125 million loan on Dec 27 with the Indian government to develop climate-resilient sewage collection and treatment, and drainage and water supply systems in three cities in the state of Tamil Nadu – Coimbatore, Madurai, and Thoothukudi.

Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed an agreement with the Tripura government for a loan of Rs 2,275 crore to strengthen and improve power distribution efficiency in the north-eastern state.

DECEMBER

PUDUCHERRY TOPS IN 'SOCIAL PROGRESS'

The Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister (EAC-PM) released on Dec 20 the Social Progress Index (SPI) report for States and Districts of India. It was prepared by the Institute for Competitiveness, Gurugram, Haryana and the Social Progress Imperative, USA. SPI is a comprehensive tool intended to be a holistic measure of the social progress made by the country at the National and sub-national levels.

Puducherry secured first position with a SPI score of 65.99, based on its remarkable performance in factors such as Personal Freedom and Choice, Shelter, and Water and Sanitation. Puducherry was followed closely by Lakshadweep (65.89) and Goa (65.53).

The top three performing districts were Shimla in Himachal Pradesh, Solan in Himachal Pradesh, and Aizawl in Mizoram.

The index assesses states and districts based on 12 components across three critical dimensions of social progress – Basic Human Needs, Foundations of well-being, and Opportunity. It uses an extensive framework comprising 89 indicators at the State level and 49 at the district level.

INDIA'S LONGEST ESCAPE TUNNEL COMPLETED

The prestigious Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Railway Line project achieved yet another milestone on Dec 23 by completing India's longest (12.89 km) escape tunnel. This escape tunnel T-49, located between Sumber and Khari Stations on the Katra-Banihal section, has been constructed to facilitate rescue work in case of an emergency.

It is a twin-tube tunnel with a main tunnel (12.75 km) and escape tunnel (12.89 km) connected by 33 cross-passages. The 111 km Katra-Banihal section features 37 bridges and 35 tunnels.

WORLD'S FIRST GOLD SELLING ATM

A Hyderabad based jewellery manufacturer Goldsikka, launched "the first real-time Gold ATM of the world" on Dec 05 at its head office in Ashoka Raghupathi Chambers, Begumpet, Hyderabad.

The Gold ATM supplies coins in denominations ranging from 0.5 gms to 100 gms. Each ATM has a capacity of holding up to 5 kg of gold, worth around Rs. 2-3 crores.

The company said that the gold ATM had a number of advantages, including simplicity of use, availability around the clock, and the possibility to purchase gold within one's price range. A debit or credit card may be used to complete the transactions.

Although gold vending machines have been in operation since 2010 in Abu Dhabi and in many European Metros, this is the first real-time gold vending machine.



INDIA'S BIGGEST YOGA CENTRE



India's biggest Yoga Centre has been constructed in the village Mantalai in Udhampur district of Jammu and Kashmir. Mantalai is located at the banks of the Tawi River, allowing a peripheral view of both the plains as well as the hills.

Developed by the Tourism Ministry in the Government of India at a cost of more than Rs 9,782 crore, the International Yoga Centre has been given a modern facelift with swimming pools, spas, cafeteria and dining halls, business convention centres, helipads, cottage-designed eco-lodge huts with solarium, gymnasium, auditoriums, battery operated cars, meditation enclaves and a lot more.

WORLD'S LONGEST DOUBLE-DECKER VIADUCT

By building the longest, 3,140 metres long double-decker viaduct (metro) supported on a single column, Nagpur Metro has successfully established a Guinness World Record. Double decker viaduct carries highway flyover at the first level and Metro Rail at second level making it a three-tier transportation system with the existing highway at ground level.

This assisted in avoiding additional land acquisition, saving money on land costs and cutting down on project costs and construction time.

GNDU, AMRITSAR GETS TOP NAAC SCORE

National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has granted A grade to the Guru Nanak Dev University (GNDU), Amritsar. Scoring 3.85 points in grading, it became the only State/Central/Private University in India to get this score. Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) is the only other educational institution with a higher grade of 3.89 in the country.

Guru Nanak Dev University was established under an act of Punjab state in Amritsar on November 24, 1969 to mark the 50th birth anniversary of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji.

The assessment is based on a set of seven criteria under different key aspects based on the functioning and organisational strengths. The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) was established in 1994 as an autonomous institution of the University Grants Commission (UGC) with its headquarter in Bengaluru.

TN FIRST TO HAVE CLIMATE CHANGE MISSION

Tamil Nadu has become the first state to start its own climate change mission, headed by the Chief Minister M K Stalin himself. The mission aims to develop methods to cut emissions by using green and renewable energy, increased use of public transportation, increasing forest cover, and effectively managing waste.

The Tamil Nadu Governing Council on Climate Change would provide advice on adaptation to climate change and mitigation of climate change impacts, formulate the Tamil Nadu State Climate Change Action Plan and provide appropriate guidelines for its implementation.

COUNTRY'S FIRST CARBON NEUTRAL FARM

Kerala government on Dec 10 declared a seed farm, located at Thuruthu in Aluva, as the first carbon neutral farm in the country. The total amount of carbon emission from the farm in the last one year was 43 tons but its overall procurement was 213 tons.

As many as 30 percent of greenhouse gas emissions come from agriculture and this can be prevented and climate change can be regulated through carbon neutral agricultural practices.

Carbon neutrality means having a balance between emitting carbon-di-Oxide and absorbing the same from the atmosphere by means of say, forest conservation, afforestation or renewable energy expansion.

MUMBAI TOPS IN PROPERTY PRICE RISE

Knight Frank, a property consultancy firm based in London, has ranked Mumbai 22nd in a global index that measures the annual price appreciation of premium residential properties in local currency in 45+ cities around the world. According to Knight Frank's Prime Global Cities Index Q3 (July-September) 2022, three Indian cities, Mumbai, Bengaluru, and New Delhi, saw an increase in average annual prices in the third quarter of 2022. Mumbai rose to 22nd place in the third quarter of 2022, from 39th place the previous year, registering a price rise of 4.8 percent.

Dubai recorded the fastest rise in prime prices with an 88.8 percent increase during a 12-month change



SWAMIH INVESTMENT FUND I



The Union government has infused about ₹5,000 crore in SWAMIH Investment Fund I, helping the fund mark its final close of ₹15,530 crore. The SBICAP Ventures-managed SWAMIH fund is sponsored by the ministry of finance and it invests in RERA approved stressed residential projects.

The fund has already achieved construction completion of 19,500 homes and is on track to deliver about 20,000 homes every year for the next 3 years.

ADANI BAGS CONTRACT TO DEVELOP DHARAVI

The Adani Group emerged as the highest bidder on Nov 29 for the 640 acre (2.6 sq km) Dharavi Redevelopment Project in Central Mumbai. The group has put in a Rs 5,069 crore bid for the redevelopment of one of the largest slum sprawls in the world, outbidding DLF, which had quoted Rs 2,025 crore.

The bid is for the entire Rs 20,000-crore project, and the total timeline for the project is seven years to rehabilitate the 6.5 lakh slum dwellers. The developer has to take care of rehabilitation, renewal, amenities and infrastructure components of the area.

The project will help the Adani Group to book high revenues by selling lakhs of square feet of residential and commercial space in Central Mumbai. However, the project has been in limbo for many years now because of its myriad complexities, involving a wide variety of residents with equally varied interests.

KUKI-CHIN TRIBALS CROSS OVER TO MIZORAM

More than 300 people belonging to the ethnic Kuki-Chin minorities from Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) in Bangladesh crossed over to the Indian side, taking refuge in south Mizoram's Lawngtlai district. They fled their homes due to arm clashes between Bangladesh Army and an ethnic insurgent group Kuki-Chin National Army (KNA) in November this year.

The Kuki-Chin ethnic tribal community is spread over parts of Mizoram, Manipur and adjoining areas of Bangladesh and Myanmar. They have been demanding a separate state comprising the areas occupied by them in Chittagong Hill Tracts.

FSSAI APPROVES YAK AS 'FOOD ANIMAL'

The Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) has approved the Himalayan Yak as a 'food animal'. Food Animals are those which are raised and used for food production or consumption by humans. The move is expected to help check decline in the population of the high-altitude bovine animal by making it a part of the conventional milk and meat industry,

Traditionally, Yaks are reared under a transhumance system which is primitive, unorganised and full of hardships. Yak milk is highly nutritious, rich in fat, contains essential minerals and has medicinal value.

Yak farmers also produce various traditional meat products.

ADANI SHUTS DOWN CEMENT PLANTS IN HP

The Adani group has decided to shut down its two cement plants at Barmana (ACC) and Darlaghat (Ambuja) in Himachal Pradesh from Dec 14 citing high transportation cost, of both, raw material as well as finished product, that is making operations unviable. The Adani Group has recently acquired the cement plants owned by the ACC cement and Ambujas in the state.

LADAKH CELEBRATES LOSAR FESTIVAL

A nine-day Losar festival began in Ladakh on 24th December to mark the beginning of Ladakhi New Year. It is a major socio-religious festival of Buddhists of Ladakh celebrated during winter. People celebrate by offering prayers in the name of their deities. Losar has been celebrated in Ladakh for centuries and has strengthened the existing community bond.

GOA CELEBRATES LUSOPHONE FESTIVAL

The Ministry of External Affairs in partnership with Indian Council of Cultural Relations and the Goa government organised the International Lusophone Festival in Goa from 3-6 December. The festival seeks to further India's connection with the Lusophone world.

The Community of Portuguese Language countries (CPLP), also known as the Lusophone Commonwealth, is a multilateral forum, founded in 1996. It has nine members and is based in Lisbon, Portugal. In English, Lusophone means a person speaking Portuguese or of Portuguese origin.



HORNBILL FESTIVAL BEGINS IN NAGALAND



The 23rd edition of the 10-day long Hornbill Festival began on Dec 01 at Naga heritage village Kisama, about 12 km from Kohima, capital of Nagaland. It is the biggest musical and cultural extravaganza of Nagaland, showcasing the food and culture of all the tribes of Nagaland.

Hornbill is a popular large bird, with a typical long curved bill, found in the forests of Nagaland. The festival, supported by the state government, showcases the diverse Naga ethnicity through folk dances, traditional music, tribal rituals, indigenous games, local cuisine, handicraft, artwork and textiles. The festival's 2022 edition comprises around 700 separate events.

- ❖ **The Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has approved a \$780 million loan to build new lines and improve the connectivity of Chennai's metro rail system with existing bus and feeder services.
- ❖ **The ADB** approved a \$3 million project readiness financing facility on Nov 30 to support preparatory activities for designing a project to improve municipal infrastructure in Agartala city in Tripura.

GOVT. INITIATIVES

JANUARY

NCERT NOTIFIES ESTABLISHMENT OF PARAKH

The National Council for Education Research and Training (NCERT) has notified India's first national assessment regulator 'PARAKH', which will work on setting norms, standards and guidelines for student assessment and evaluation for all recognised school boards in the country. It aims to set up common assessment guidelines for all boards to help remove disparities in scores of students enrolled with different state boards.

PARAKH stands for Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic development. It has been established within the education survey division of the NCERT. It will closely work with the state directorates of education, state education boards and international organisations working in the area of assessment and evaluation.

PARAKH will work in three major assessment areas including large-scale assessments, school-based assessments, and examination reforms. It will also be responsible for conducting large-scale assessments, including the National Achievement Survey (NAS).

INDIA'S FIRST CoE FOR ONLINE GAMING

India's first 'Centre of Excellence' for online gaming is to be set up in Shillong, Meghalaya by March 2023. The CoE will be set up under Digital India Startup Hub through the Software Technology Parks of India, under the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology.

The Boston Consulting Group and Sequoia India report suggests that the Indian mobile gaming industry will be worth \$5 Billion by 2025, among the largest in the world. According to a report by Lumikari, India had 507 million gamers in 2022. India is not just a consumer of online gaming but also home to more than 900 gaming companies.

BROADCASTING INFRA & NETWORK SCHEME

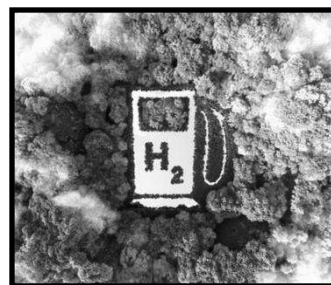
The Union Cabinet approved the Broadcasting Infrastructure and Network Development (BIND) Scheme on Jan 04 with an outlay of Rs. 2539 crore for augmenting broadcasting infrastructure in India, particularly in remote areas. The scheme will financially support Prasar Bharati in the expansion and upgradation of its broadcasting infrastructure, content development, and civil works.

Eight lakh DD Free Dish, DTH Set Top Boxes will be distributed to people living in remote, tribal, Left Wing Extremism, border areas, and aspirational districts under the scheme. Coverage of AIR's FM channel will be increased to cover more than 80% of the country's population.

Doordarshan operates 36 TV channels including 28 regional channels and All India Radio runs more than five hundred broadcasting stations.

NATIONAL GREEN HYDROGEN MISSION

The Union Cabinet approved the National Green Hydrogen Mission on 04 Jan with an initial outlay of 19,744 crore rupees to make India a Global Hub for production, utilisation and export of Green Hydrogen. The Mission will play an important role in dealing with climate change.



The Mission targets to produce 50 lakh tonnes of green hydrogen per year, with an associated renewable energy capacity addition of about 125 Giga Watt. It will help in saving roughly one lakh crore rupees in the import of fossil fuels. Through this mission, 50 million metric tonnes of carbon emissions will be averted annually.



The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) and the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), the two prominent institutions under the Ministry of Ayush, have launched 'SMART' (Scope for Mainstreaming Ayurveda Research in Teaching Professionals) program.

It aims to boost scientific research in priority healthcare research areas through Ayurveda colleges and hospitals. The 'SMART' program will motivate teachers to take up projects in designated areas of healthcare research and create a large database.

PRAJJWALA CHALLENGE FOR RURAL DEV.

The Rural Development Ministry launched Prajjwala Challenge on Dec 29 for inviting ideas, solutions and actions to transform the rural economy. This is a first of its kind nationwide initiative to provide thoughtful minds a platform to present new, innovative and scalable pathways for rural economic transformation in India. The Challenge has been launched under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana of National Rural Livelihoods Mission.

According to the Ministry, it is one of the platforms where ideas are invited from one and all, Individuals, Social Enterprises, Start up, Private Sector, Community Based Organization, Incubation centres and Investors having potential to transform the rural economy.

RIGHT TO REPAIR PORTAL LAUNCHED

The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution the Right to Repair Portal on Dec 24 to protect the interests of Indian consumers. Manufacturers will share the manual of product details with customers on the portal so that they can either repair by self, by third parties, rather than depend on original manufacturers. Initially, mobile phones, electronic, consumer durables, automobile and farming equipment will be covered.

For customers who are unable to fix their issues on their own, the portal also offers an online assistance tool. With the use of this tool, customers can speak with a knowledgeable customer service agent who can offer advice and support in resolving any issue. The portal offers a forum for customers to get legal counsel in addition to the online complaint resolution option.

RAILWAYS TO MODERNISE 1,000 STATIONS

The Ministry of Railways has formulated a new "Amrit Bharat Station Scheme" to modernise over 1,000 small stations over the coming years. The model envisages low-cost redevelopment of stations which can be executed timely. It plans to relocate redundant/old buildings in a cost efficient manner so that space is released for higher priority passenger related activities and future development may be carried out smoothly.

Key features of these proposed stations include provisions for roof top plazas, longer platforms, ballastless tracks, and 5G connectivity. Re-development includes smooth access by widening of roads, removal of unwanted structures, properly designed signages, dedicated pedestrian pathways, well planned parking areas and improved lighting etc.

The scheme will subsume all previous redevelopment projects where work is yet to begin.

FREE FOOD GRAINS TO OVER 81 CR. PEOPLE

In a major decision, the union government has decided to provide free ration to 81.35 crore poor people under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) for one year from January 1, 2023. It, however, also decided not to extend Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY) beyond Dec 31, 2022 which was specially designed to support the poor amid COVID-19 pandemic.

From January 01 onward the beneficiaries of the NFSA, who were getting rice at Rs 3 per kg and wheat at Rs 2 per kg, will not have to pay a single penny to get food grains for the next one year. The Centre will bear the entire cost of providing free food grains which is estimated to be at Rs 2 lakh crore per year.

Under the NFSA, people get 5 kg of foodgrains per person per month while the poor families covered under Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) get 35 kg of foodgrains per month.

SCHEME OF DEVELOPMENT OF PVTGS

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has implemented a dedicated Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) "Scheme of Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)". It aims for the socio-economic development of the PVTGs tribal communities in a comprehensive manner while retaining their culture and heritage by adopting habitat development approaches to fill in the critical gaps in development.

There are 75 groups of most vulnerable sections amongst the tribals who are classified as the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) spread over 18 States and the UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. These groups are eligible for all the development and welfare schemes that are available to all citizens of India.



INDIA FIRST TO AUCTION SPACE SPECTRUM



The telecom regulator TRAI's chairman Dr. P D Vaghela announced on Dec 13 that India will be the first to handle the issue of auctioning the space base spectrum for satellite communication, and it will be designed to attract investments in the sector.

Vaghela said that Trai is in discussion with experts and regulators worldwide for a suitable model and the consultation paper will be floated after those discussions are over. He was speaking at the India SatCom, Broadband India Forum's annual summit in New Delhi.

'GHAR' LAUNCHED FOR LOST CHILDREN

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), has developed and launched a portal 'GHAR' – Go Home And Re-unite (Portal for Restoration and Repatriation of Child). The GHAR portal has been developed to digitally monitor and track the restoration and repatriation of children according to the protocol.

The portal will allow digital tracking and monitoring of children who are in the Juvenile Justice system and have to be repatriated to another country, state or district. The portal will include a checklist style in the forms to identify children who are difficult to repatriate or children who are not receiving their due compensation or other monetary benefits.

21 A&N ISLANDS NAMED AFTER PVC HEROES

The government has named 21 uninhabited islands in the union territory of Andaman & Nicobar after recipients of Param Vir Chakra, the country's highest wartime gallantry award. This initiative is a testimony to the sacrifices made by Indian Army personnel and youngsters will be aware of their heroic deeds.

Out of 21 islands, 16 are located in North and Middle Andaman district, while five islands are in South Andaman. The first uninhabited island numbered 'INAN370' in North and Middle Andaman was named after Major Somnath Sharma. It will now be known as 'Somnath Dweep'.

SEPARATE TEST FOR IRMS IN RAILWAYS

The Government announced on Dec 02 that recruitment to Indian Railway Management Service, IRMS will be done by the UPSC from next year onwards through a specially designed examination. It will be a two-tier examination consisting of a Preliminary Screening Examination, followed by a Main Written Examination and Interview.

All eligible candidates shall be required to appear in the common Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination and successful candidates will be screened for IRMS (Main) Examination. The age limits and number of attempts for various categories will be the same as those for the Civil Services Examination.

DIGI YATRA APP FOR AIR TRAVELLERS

The government launched DigiYatra app based on facial recognition technology on Dec 01, to provide a seamless entry and embarkation process for air passengers at the airports in New Delhi, Bangalore and Varanasi. The secured, encrypted information on a passenger's phone can be provided to the airport from which he or she is flying out, 24 hours before the journey.

At the airport e-gate, the passenger will have to first scan the bar coded boarding pass. The facial recognition system installed at the e-gate will validate the passenger's identity and travel documents. Once verified, passenger will be allowed entry in the airport.

ECONOMY & INDUSTRY

JANUARY

INDIAN GDP TO GROW BY 7% - NSO

According to the First Advance Estimates of National Income released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) on Jan 06, the real GDP during FY 2022-23 is estimated to grow at 7% as compared to 8.7% in FY 2021-22, mainly due to poor performance of the manufacturing sector.

Real GDP or GDP at Constant Prices (2011-12) in the year 2022-23 is estimated at Rs 157.60 lakh crore, as against the Provisional Estimate of GDP for the year 2021-22 at Rs 147.36 lakh crore. The output of the manufacturing sector is estimated to decelerate to 1.6 per cent as against a growth of 9.9 per cent in FY22.

The projections suggest that despite the global headwinds and continued geopolitical uncertainty caused by the Russia-Ukraine conflict, the recovery is on track though there are pressure points.



WB SLASHES GDP GROWTH TO 6.6%



The latest economic update from the World Bank says that India's economic growth rate in 2023-24 is likely to slow down to 6.6% from an expected 6.9% in 2022-23. Lower projection is based on its fresh assessment of a gloomy outlook for the world economy as a whole. India however is expected to be the fastest growing economy of the seven largest emerging-market and developing economies, said the report.

INDIA WORLD'S 3rd LARGEST AUTO SELLER

According to a Nikkei Asia report published on Jan 6, India for the first-time surpassed Japan in auto sales last year and moved up to third place globally. At least 4.25 million new cars were sold in India, surpassing 4.2 million in Japan. The first and second rank is retained by China and USA, selling 26.75 and 13.89 million, respectively.

As per the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers, the total number of new vehicles delivered in India between January and November 2022 is 4.13 million. The inclusion of pending fourth-quarter commercial vehicle sales figures as well as year-end results by Tata Motors and other automakers are expected to boost India's sales volume even further.

PSUs EXEMPTED FROM MINIMUM 25% MPS

In a gazette notification issued on Jan 02 by the central government, public sector undertakings (PSUs) have been exempted from the Minimum Public Shareholding (MPS) norm of SEBI which stipulates that all listed companies are required to maintain a minimum public shareholding of 25% of their shares.

The exemption would apply on all PSUs regardless of the government's direct or indirect holding and would be valid for a "specified period" even if ownership changed hands.

After this notification, IDBI Bank will now be exempt from MPS even after partial stake sale by the LIC and the government. The government and LIC together are looking to sell 60.72% of equity in IDBI Bank. The government and LIC hold 94.71% stake in IDBI Bank.

POWERGRID TOPS THE PE SURVEY 2021-22

PowerGrid Corporation of India Ltd, a Central Public Sector Enterprise under the ownership of the Ministry of Power, was ranked number one in the services sector in the Public Enterprises Survey 2021-22.

PowerGrid secured the top rank on account of its outstanding operational efficiency and excellent profitability. PowerGrid had maintained transmission system availability by more than 99%. The PE Survey is a unique data repository to measure the progress and contribution of the CPSEs to the Indian economy.

SIEMENS TO MANUFACTURE 1200 LOCOS

Siemens India, Indian subsidiary of the German engineering giant Siemens AG, signed a Rs 26,000-crore contract with Indian Railways to manufacture 1,200 electric freight locomotives of 9000 HP power, in India. The locos will be built at their Dahod plant in Gujarat. This contract with the ministry of railways is the single biggest order for Siemens Limited in India. Deliveries are planned over an 11-year period and the contract includes 35 years of full-service maintenance.

ADANI GROUP TO PLANT 10 CRORE TREES

India's richest corporate Adani Group has announced India's biggest plantation drive. The conglomerate said that it would plant 10 crore trees by 2030 as part of its commitment to Paris COP 21. The Group also announced that it has already planted 2.9 crore trees. The Group aims to have 3.7 crore mangrove trees by 2030. Besides, the group plans to plant 6.3 crore terrestrial trees by 2030.

Mangroves and terrestrial trees help in protecting the environment, reduce air pollution, preserve coastlines, prevent saline water ingress and soil erosion, recharge groundwater table, provide breeding ground for fish and offer many other benefits.

DECEMBER

INDIAN GDP GROWS BY 6.3%

Beating all apprehensions of a slowdown in the economy, India remained the fastest-growing major economy in the world during the July-September quarter. However, the GDP growth slowed down a bit to 6.3% mainly due to poor performance by the manufacturing and mining sectors, according to official data released on Nov 30 by the Central Statistical Office.

Relief came from the farm sector which saw 4.6 per cent GVA as compared to 3.2 per cent a year ago. It may be noted that the economy grew by 8.4 per cent in July-September last year and 13.5 per cent in the preceding April-June quarter.



IMF PROJECTS 6.8% GROWTH FOR INDIA



A recent report released by the IMF on Dec 23 projected a growth rate of 6.8 per cent and 6.1 per cent in the current and the next fiscal respectively. The report said, "India is navigating a "very difficult" external environment, yet, it continues to be the bright spot in an otherwise gloomy global economic scenario."

According to the report, growth is expected to moderate, reflecting the less favourable outlook and tighter financial conditions.

WB RAISES GROWTH RATE TO 6.9%

In its India Development Update released on Dec 06, the World Bank revised upwards its GDP growth forecast for India to 6.9 per cent for 2022-23, saying the economy is showing higher resilience to global shocks and second quarter results were better-than-expected. In October, it had cut India's GDP growth forecast to 6.5 per cent from the earlier 7.5 per cent.

S&P DOWNS INDIA'S GROWTH RATE TO 7%

On Nov 28, S&P Global Ratings slashed India's economic growth forecast for the current fiscal year to 7 per cent, (from 7.3% projected in Sep. 2022) but said the domestic demand-led economy will be less impacted by the global slowdown. It may be noted that the Indian economy grew 8.5 per cent in FY 2021-22.

INDIA'S FIRST GAS PRICE INDEX LAUNCHED

The Indian Gas Exchange (IGX), has launched an index named GIXI that will reflect gas prices and will soon come up with a product for trading in gas pipeline capacity. It would help market participants know the inland gas prices and make suitable decisions.

Participants can offer to sell and buy gas (including LNG), for which IGX charges ₹4/mmBtu each from the seller and the buyer. The gas must necessarily be physically delivered and taken.

RELIANCE BUYS OUT METRO WHOLESALE

Reliance Industries has agreed to buy German firm Metro AG's wholesale operations in India for Rs 2,850 crore. Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd., a subsidiary of Reliance Industries, signed definitive agreements to acquire a 100% equity stake in Metro Cash & Carry India Pvt Ltd.

Reliance is India's biggest brick-and-mortar retailer with over 16,600 stores, and a strong wholesale unit would further deepen its operations in India. Metro started operations in India in 2003 and currently operates 31 large format stores across 21 cities with about 3,500 employees.

AGEL TOPS IN RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS

Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) announced commissioning of its third hybrid power plant on Dec 5 in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan having generating capacity of 450 megawatts (MW). With this, AGEL became the "world's largest wind-solar hybrid power developer" with an operational capacity of 1,440 MW.

The company's overall total operational generation capacity is 7.17 GW. With an overall portfolio of 20.4 GW including operating, under-construction and awarded assets, it claims to have the largest global renewable energy portfolio.

RELIANCE INDUSTRIES IS MOST VALUABLE

Axis Bank's '2022 Burgundy Private Hurun India 500,' which lists the country's 500 most valuable firms, reported that Reliance Industries with a market cap of Rs 17.2 trillion, is India's most valued listed firm, followed by Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and HDFC Bank, with a valuation of Rs 11.6 trillion and Rs 8.3 trillion, respectively.

The total market value of the 500 listed companies remained unchanged at Rs 226 lakh crore, a sum equal to India's current GDP.

In terms of the number of firms, financial services and healthcare comprised the biggest chunk of the list, with 73 and 60 companies, respectively.

VISTARA TO MERGE WITH AIR INDIA

In a major consolidation in the Indian aviation space, Tata group (owner of Air India) announced the merger of Vistara with Air India. Vistara is owned by Tata Group (51%) and Singapore Airlines (49%). The new entity will include Air India (113 aircraft), Vistara (54 aircraft), Air India Express (24 aircraft), and AirAsia (28 aircraft).

It will become one of the largest airlines to take flight in India. Pursuant to the deal, Singapore Airlines will have 25.1% stake in enlarged Air India group.



BANKING & FINANCE

JANUARY

DEADLINE EXTENDED FOR LOCKER RENEWAL

The RBI extended on Jan 23 the deadline for renewal of agreements for the existing safe deposit lockers in a phased manner, maximum by 31st of December 2023. RBI said that the deadline has been extended as it has been noticed that a large number of customers are yet to sign the revised agreement. RBI asked the banks to complete at least 50 percent of registrations by the 30th of June and 75 percent by end of September, 2023.

RBI GUIDELINES FOR SHAREHOLDING IN BANKS

The Reserve Bank of India issued guidelines on Jan 16 stating that any person looking to acquire a 'major shareholding' of more than 5 per cent stake in a bank, will need prior approval from the RBI.

The RBI has defined "major shareholding" as "aggregate holding" of 5 per cent or more of the paid-up share capital or voting rights in a banking company by a person.

The banking regulator said that banks where aggregate shareholding of entities is not in conformance with this guideline, will have to comply with the norms within the next six months.

'UTKARSH 2.0' - RBI'S REACH FOR EXCELLENCE

Reserve Bank of India launched its medium-term strategy framework titled 'Utkarsh 2.0' on Dec 30 to enhance the RBI's statutory and other functions and to guide the central bank during 2023-2025.

Utkarsh 2.0 harnesses the strengths of Utkarsh 2022 (launched in July 2019) by retaining the six vision statements as well as core purpose, values, and mission. Utkarsh 2.0 would allow the central bank to both react and act proactively to confront socio-economic challenges, the RBI said.

It will work to strengthen internal operations and governance, and boost digital and physical infrastructure to be the best-in-class. It also aims to achieve improvement in skilling of human resources, increasing people's trust in the institution, and enhancing the relevance of its role in national and global terms.



RBI RETAINS 3 TOP BANKS AS D-SIBS



Based on the data collected from banks as on March 31, 2022, RBI has decided to retain SBI, ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank as D-SIBs - Domestic Systemically Important Banks for 2021. D-SIBs are required to maintain additional Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) in addition to the usual capital conservation buffer.

As per the RBI's latest press release, SBI will have to maintain an additional 0.6 per cent CET1 as a percentage of its risk-weighted assets. Similarly, ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank, each need to maintain an additional 0.2 per cent CET1 capital.

D-SIBs are those interconnected entities whose failure can impact the whole of the financial system and may create instability.

- ❖ *The Central government has extended the tenure of Dr Michael Debabrata Patra as Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, for one more year with effect from 15 January, 2023. Patra took over as Deputy Governor of the RBI on January 15, 2020.*

DECEMBER

NEW GUIDELINES FOR LOCKER OPERATIONS

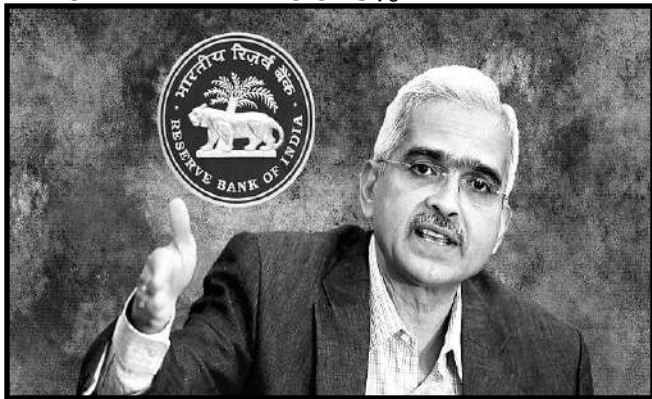
RBI has mandated banks in the country to renew their locker agreements with existing locker customers by January 01, 2023. All the existing locker depositors are required to furnish proof of eligibility for a renewed locker arrangement. The revised guidelines that were first released on 08 August 2021, are being implemented wef Jan 01, 2023.

Depositors can now get up to 100 times the bank charges if the valuables stored in the vaults are ransacked or lost due to fire or building collapse. However, the bank shall not be liable for any damage or loss of contents of the locker originating from natural calamities or 'Acts of God'.

RBI also advised the banks to install CCTV cameras at entry and exit points of the strong room and the common areas of operation. It mandates the preservation of CCTV recording for a period of not less than 180 days.

According to the guidelines, if any customer complaints to the bank that his or her locker has been opened without knowledge and authority, or any theft or security breach is noticed, the bank shall preserve the CCTV recording till the police investigation is completed and the dispute is settled.

REPO RATE HIKED TO 6.25%



The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) hiked the policy repo rate on Dec 07 - for a fifth consecutive time - by 35 basis points to 6.25 %. The central bank increased the rate after inflation continued to stay above its tolerance band. Consequently, the standing deposit facility (SDF) rate stands adjusted to 6.00 per cent and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate to 6.50 per cent.

The move to raise the rates will make loans -- including housing, auto -- and corporate credit expensive as banks are expected to hike the lending rates.

The decisions were taken in consonance with the objective of achieving the medium-term target for consumer price index (CPI) inflation of 4 per cent within a band of +/- 2 per cent, while supporting growth.

The RBI has maintained FY 2022-23 Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation forecast at 6.7%.

FIT RANKING LAUNCHED FOR MSMEs

With the intent of deepening credit flow to small businesses and also helping lenders avoid loan losses on the MSMEs, TransUnion CIBIL, in collaboration with Online PSB Loans, under the mentorship of SIDBI, launched on Dec 20 the FIT Rank – a comprehensive ranking model for MSME borrowers. FIT combines the power of Financial, Income, and Trade (FIT) data based on Goods and Services Tax (GST), Bank Statement and Income Tax returns (ITR) to provide a holistic view of MSMEs.

The 'FIT Rank' will rate the over 6 crore MSMEs to arrive at a score between 1-10 to rate a borrower after taking consent to draw the relevant data.

The ranking will give lenders an idea about the capacity of an enterprise to pay, its creditworthiness and also intention to pay from past experience.

RBI ADDS NEW FEATURE IN UPI

The Reserve Bank of India announced on Dec 7 to add a new functionality — “single block and multiple debits” in the UPI system. This feature will aid payments where delivery of goods and services will happen later, like e-commerce purchases, hotel bookings or investments in securities.

A major difference between the mechanism is that at present, there is only single debit transactions functionality for a single block in the UPI. In other words, customers can only block one debit transaction in their accounts for their choice of payment. The new feature allows customers to block multiple transactions on their account for specific transactions making automated payments easier and quicker.

Data from the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) shows that transactions through UPI in November 2022 crossed 731 crores in volume, totaling more than Rs 11.90 lakh crores in value.

RBI LAUNCHES DIGITAL RUPEE

The RBI launched the retail digital rupee on Dec 01 on a pilot basis. The central bank has identified eight banks for phase-wise participation in this trial. The retail digital rupee will be in the form of a digital token that represents legal tender and thus will be issued in the same denominations as paper currency and coins are issued.

Retail digital rupee transactions can be carried out through a digital wallet on mobile phones and other devices. Only those digital wallets offered by banks participating in the RBI's digital rupee programme can transact in digital currency.

The first phase will begin with four banks i.e. State Bank of India, ICICI Bank, Yes Bank, and IDFC First Bank in four cities including Mumbai, New Delhi, Bengaluru, and Bhubaneswar.

NEW HI-TECH PLATFORM FOR LOAN RECOVERY

Spocto, an exclusive Indian debt support and risk mitigation platform has launched India's first Spocto Innovation Lab (SIL) catering to the debt collection segment of banking industries across India and MENA (Middle East & North Africa).

SIL will be collaborating with multiple bank stakeholders to better understand the NPA crisis, and how best to use technology to minimise them. SIL is designed to fast-track work on disruptive technologies for expediting loan recoveries by focusing on AI/ML, big data, data security, etc. through an accelerated mechanism.



BANKER'S BANK OF THE YEAR AWARD 2022



Canara Bank won the top award on Dec 01 for the India segment at the Global Banking Summit held in London, UK. It was adjudged as the Best Bank in India for 2022. The awards are given by 'The Banker' magazine. Published from London, it is a premier global banking and finance resource for more than 180 countries.

SEBI FORMS VAZIFDAR COMMITTEE

SEBI, the capital markets regulator, has set up a high-level panel to review the takeover norms in a move to simplify and strengthen the current rules by adopting appropriate global practices. The 20-member committee will be chaired by former Chief Justice of Punjab and Haryana High Court, Shri Vazifdar.

DEFENCE, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

JANUARY

INS VAGIR JOINS INDIAN NAVY

The fifth Kalvari class submarine INS Vagir was commissioned into the Indian Navy on Jan 23 by the Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral R Hari Kumar in Mumbai. The submarine has been built by the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) Mumbai, under collaboration with M/s Naval Group, France. It is capable of undertaking diverse missions including anti-surface warfare, anti-submarine warfare, intelligence gathering, mine laying, and surveillance missions.

PRODUCTION OF AK-203 BEGINS IN INDIA

The Korwa Ordnance Factory in Korwa near Amethi, Uttar Pradesh produced the first batch of 7.62 mm Kalashnikov AK-203 assault rifles. The beginning of deliveries to the Indian Army is expected soon. Some 7 lakh such rifles are needed and these would be main hand-held weapon for the Indian troops in coming times.

The AK-203 combines excellent ergonomics and high-performance characteristics, making it one of the best assault rifles in the world. It weighs mere 3.8 kg and can fire 39mm bullets with a firing speed of 700 rounds per minute. Its effective strike range is up to 800 metres.

The rifles are being produced by the Indo-Russian Rifles Private Limited. It is a joint venture between Russia and India, whose founders on the Russian side are Rosoboronexport and Kalashnikov Concern (subsidiaries of the Rostec State Corporation).

BRAHMOS AIR LAUNCHED MISSILE TESTED

Indian Air Force successfully tested the Extended Range Version of BrahMos Air Launched Missile on Dec 29 against a Ship Target in the Bay of Bengal from a Sukhoi SU-30MKI aircraft. It can hit targets in a range of around 400 km. It can attain speeds up to 3600 kmph, almost three times the speed of sound.

ICGS 'KAMLA DEVI': The Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV) built by the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd, Kolkata was commissioned into the Indian Coast Guard on Jan 12 in Kolkata, West Bengal. The FPV is 48.9 meters long and 7.5 meters wide with a displacement of 308 Tons. It has a top speed of 34 knots (63 kmph).

'PRAHARI' APP FOR WELFARE OF BSF JAWANS

The government launched the 'Prahari' Mobile app for the Border Security Force (BSF) on Dec 29 in New Delhi. The app will enable jawans to access personal information and information related to accommodation, Ayushman-CAPF, and leaves on their mobile. The jawans can get information on various welfare schemes through the app and this app will also connect them with the portal of the Ministry of Home Affairs, as BSF comes under it.

Captain Shiva Chauhan:

Lady Officer from the Bengal Engineer Regiment of Corps of Engineers became the first woman officer to get operationally deployed at the world's highest battlefield on January 2 for a period of three months.

The officer was posted at the Kumar post, located at an altitude of around 15,600 feet in Siachen, after she underwent rigorous training for high altitude acclimatisation.

The Siachen glacier at the height of around 15-20,000 feet in the Karakoram range, is known as the highest militarised zone in the world where the soldiers have to battle frostbite and high-speed freezing winds.



TROPEX-23: The Indian Navy's major maritime exercise started on Jan 24 in the Indian Ocean Region. The operational-level drill is conducted biennially and witnesses the participation of not only all Navy units, but also of Army, IAF and Coast Guard assets. The exercise is being conducted in different phases, both in harbour and at sea, encompassing various facets of combat operations, including live weapon firings. The exercise will continue till March 31.



Veer Guardian-2023: India and Japan held their first joint air exercise at Hyakuri Air Base, Japan from Jan 12 to 26. A contingent of the Indian Air Force and that of the Japan Air Self Defence Force took part in the exercise. From the Indian side, four Su-30 MKI, two C-17 Globemasters and one IL-78 tanker participated in the exercise.

AMPHEX 2023: The largest biennial Tri-Services amphibious exercise involving the Indian Army, Indian Air Force (IAF), and the Indian Navy, was conducted in the coastal area near Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh from January 17 to 22.

Exercise Cyclone-I: The first of its kind joint operation of the Special Forces contingents of India and Egypt was held from Jan 14 to 27 in the deserts of Jaisalmer, Rajasthan. The exercise aims to improve defence cooperation between the two countries.

Exercise Varuna: The 21st Edition of the Bilateral Naval Exercise between India and France was held from Jan 16 to 20 off the western sea coast in the Arabian sea. The exercise conducted advanced air defence exercises, tactical manoeuvres, surface firings, underway replenishment and other maritime operations.

INDIA'S OWN MOBILE OS- 'BharOS' LAUNCHED

A tech startup incubated by IIT Madras; JandK Operations Pvt. Ltd. Launched on Jan 19 a new mobile operating system – BharOS. A mobile operating system is a software that is the core interface on a smartphone like Android by Google and iOS by Apple.

The BharOS is an Indian government-funded project to develop a free and open-source operating system (OS) for use in government and public systems. It focuses on privacy and security. It aims to reduce the dependence on foreign OS in smartphones and promote the use of locally developed technology.

It's a huge leap forward to create an indigenous ecosystem and a self-reliant future. BharOS comes with No Default Apps (NDA). This means that users are not forced to use apps that they may not be familiar with or that they may not trust. This innovative system promises to revolutionise the way users think about security and privacy on their mobile devices.

BharOS Services are currently being provided to organisations that have stringent privacy and security requirements and whose users handle sensitive information that requires confidential communications on restricted apps on mobiles.

INDIA'S FIRST HYDROGEN FUEL TRUCK

Adani Enterprises, Ashok Leyland, and Ballard Power, Canada joined hands to develop Asia's first hydrogen Fuel Cell Electric Truck (FCET) for mining logistics and transportation. The truck will have three hydrogen tanks, a 200-km working range, and be powered by Ballard's 120 kW PEM fuel cell technology.

SPACE MAPPING TESTBED LAUNCHED

Bengaluru based Space Situational Awareness (SSA) start-up Digantara Research and Technologies launched its space mapping testbed Pushan-alpha successfully on Jan 03 under the SpaceX Transporter 6 mission on board the reusable Falcon 9 rocket from Florida, USA.

Named Pushan after the Hindu solar deity which protects travellers from harm during their journeys, the testbed will stay in low-earth-orbit to gather space weather-related data.

SKYHAWK – INDIA'S FIRST 5G-ENABLED DRONE

IG Drones, a startup firm from Sambalpur, Odisha has developed a 5G-enabled drone 'Skyhawk' that is capable of vertical take-off and landing. As it's a VTOL (Vertical Take-off and Landing), it can be operated from any terrain without the need for a conventional runway. This drone can be used in defence and medical applications, among other sectors. It can carry a 10 kg payload and has an endurance of around five hours.



INDIA'S FIRST CERTIFIED 'KISAN DRONE'



Hyderabad based Marut Drone became the first Indian company to get DGCA Type Certification from the Director General of Civil Aviation on Dec 28. Its product -'AG 365 - Agricopter' is India's first Multi-utility Agriculture Medium Category Drone to receive the prestigious certificate.

AG 365 is designed and developed for Indian conditions and can be used for multiple purposes. Also called Kisan drone, it has been developed particularly for agricultural purposes to reduce crop loss, lower agrochemical usage, better yield, and profits to the farmers.

INDIA'S FIRST 3X PLATFORM WIND TURBINES

India's largest renewable energy company by operational capacity, ReNew Power (Gurugram, Haryana) announced installation of India's first 3x platform wind turbine generators (WTGs) in Gadag, Karnataka. The 128-140m high WTGs have a rated capacity of 3.3-3.5 MW as against 2-3 MW capacity of other WTGs.

The new WTGs are a part of the country's first 'Round the Clock' renewable energy project, combining wind, solar and a battery energy storage system. This project will produce enough energy to power over 1 million households in India annually.

NASA DISCOVERS EARTH LIKE PLANET

A NASA mission has discovered a second Earth-sized, rocky planet within the habitable zone of its star, meaning the range of distances where liquid water could occur on a planet's surface. Using data from NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS), the astronomers found a planet which is one of only a few systems with multiple, small, habitable-zone planets that we know of.

EUROPE'S FIRST ORBITAL LAUNCH SITE

Europe's first orbital launch site in the European mainland was inaugurated on Jan 13 in Esrange Space Centre near Kiruna in northern Sweden. The spaceport offers an independent European gateway to space. The spaceport features a launch vehicle integration facility and three launch pads. Europe already has independent access to space through the spaceport in French Guiana (an overseas French territory on the northeastern coast of South America) operated by the French space agency.

CHINA LAUNCHES ASIA'S 1st HYDROGEN TRAIN

China launched Asia's first hydrogen powered train on Dec 28 for the Urban Railways. It gets a range of 600 km on a single tank, with a top speed of 160 kmph. It is expected that the operation of the train will reduce CO2 emissions compared to diesel traction by 10 tons per year.

Germany was the first country to introduce Hydrogen driven trains in Sep 2022. This technology is still in its nascent stage for a mass-market product. The challenge of transporting hydrogen and its retail is yet to be resolved fully.

DECEMBER

ARMY TO ACQUIRE 'PRALAY' MISSILE

Indian Army plans to procure the 'Pralay' surface to surface ballistic missile that can hit the target from 150 to 500 km. DRDO had successfully conducted the maiden flight test of this missile in December 2021. The advanced missile is able to defeat interceptor missiles as it can change its path after covering a certain range mid-air.

INS ARNALA JOINS INDIAN NAVY

India's first ASW SWC (Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft) INS 'Arnala', built by the Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers for the Indian Navy was launched on Dec 20 at Chennai. ASW SWC are designed to undertake anti-submarine operations in coastal waters and Low Intensity Maritime Operations (LIMO) including subsurface surveillance in littoral waters.

INDIAN NAVY GETS SUBMARINE VAGIR

The fifth scorpene-class submarine 'Vagir' was delivered to the Indian Navy on Dec 20 in Mumbai. It is the 5th submarine of the six submarines to be built under Project-75. The 68-meter-long submarine can operate up to a depth of 350 meters. Soon it will be formally commissioned into the Indian Navy as INS Vagir.

These submarines are being constructed at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) in Mumbai in collaboration with the Naval Group of France.



INS MORMUGAO JOINS INDIAN NAVY



INS Mormugao, a P15B stealth-guided missile destroyer, was commissioned on Dec 18 into the Indian Navy in Mumbai. Built by the Mazagon Docks Shipbuilders Ltd Mumbai, the 163 m long warship is packed with sophisticated state-of-the-art weapons and sensors such as Surface-to-Surface Missile and Surface-to-Air Missiles. Its Anti-Submarine Warfare capabilities are provided by the indigenously-developed Rocket Launchers, Torpedo Launchers and the ASW helicopters. The ship is equipped to fight under Nuclear, Biological and Chemical warfare conditions.

LAST RAFALE JET REACHES INDIA

India received its 36th and final Rafale fighter jet from France on December 15, completing the delivery of all the aircrafts it had signed for in an over Rs 60,000 crore deal inked in 2016.

The Rafale jet squadrons are stationed at Ambala, Haryana and at Hasimara in West Bengal. Rafale jets have been built by Dassault Aviation, France.

INDIA'S FIRST INFANTRY MUSEUM

The country's first infantry museum was inaugurated in Mhow cantonment in Indore district of Madhya Pradesh on December 16. The museum showcases Infantry Corps' history from 1747 to 2020, in which the valour and sacrifice of valiant soldiers has been displayed in statues, murals and photo galleries. The history of battles of Plassey, Saragarhi, Buxar and Indo-Pak wars of 1965 and 1971 along with the history of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and Subhash Chandra Bose etc have been preserved in the museum.

AGNI-V TESTED SUCCESSFULLY

The DRDO successfully conducted night trials of the nuclear-capable ballistic missile Agni V on 15 December. The missile is capable of striking targets at ranges up to 5,000 km with a very high degree of accuracy. The test firing was conducted from APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the Odisha coast.

ALH MK-III SQUADRON FOR COAST GUARD

An Indian Coast Guard Advanced Light Helicopter Mk-III squadron, 840 Sqn (CG), was commissioned on Nov 30 in Chennai. The ALH Mk-III helicopters, indigenously manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), feature state-of-the-art equipment including advanced RADAR as well as Electro optical sensors.

NAVY GETS NEW SURVEY VESSEL 'IKSHAK'

Indian Navy's third Survey Vessel 'Ikshak' was launched on 26 Nov in Chennai for testing waters. The ship has been built jointly by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata and L&T Shipbuilding Ltd., Chennai. The ship is 110 m long, 16 m wide with a deep displacement of 3400 tons and a complement of 231 personnel.

Exercise KAZIND-22: The 6th edition of India - Kazakhstan joint training exercise was conducted at Umroi near Shillong (Meghalaya) from 15 to 28 December. Kazakhstan Army soldiers from the South Regional Command and Indian Army soldiers from the 11 Gorkha Rifles participated in the exercise.

Exercise Surya Kiran-XVI: The 16th edition of Indo-Nepal joint training exercise was held from Dec 16 to 29 at the battalion level at Nepal Army Battle School, Saljhandi, Nepal. The exercise aims to share experience gained by both armies in counter-terrorism and disaster relief operations.

Ex Sanchaar Bodh: The Airawat Division of the Indian Army conducted on Dec 10 in the vast extensive obstacle ridden terrain of Punjab to validate its tactical communication capabilities.

IND-INDO CORPAT: The 39th edition of India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol between the Indian Navy and the Indonesian Navy was conducted from 08 – 19 December 2022, east of Andaman Sea. The exercise started from Belawan, Indonesia and ended at Port Blair.

Coordinated Patrols (CORPATs) serve as a great platform to understand each other's' navies and enhance interoperability.

AUSTRA HIND 22: The first edition of bilateral training exercise between contingents of the Indian Army and the Australian Army was held at Mahajan Field Firing Ranges (Rajasthan) from Nov 28 to Dec 11. The Australian Army contingent comprising soldiers from the 13th Brigade of the 2nd Division and Indian troops from the DOGRA Regiment took part in the exercise.

Exercise Harimau Shakti-2022: Joint military exercise of India and Malaysia was held at Pulau Klang in Malaysia from Nov 28 to Dec 12. Combat troops of the Garhwal Rifles Regiment of the Indian Army and the Royal Malay Regiment of the Malaysian Army participated in the exercise.

7th Exercise Sangam: A joint Naval Special Forces exercise between Indian Navy MARCOs (Marine Commandos) and US Navy SEALs (Sea, Air and Land) commenced in Goa on Dec 01. The three-week exercise aims at exchange of ideas and experiences on various aspects of maritime special operations.



Exercise Sudarshan Prahar: Sudarshan Chakra Corps of Indian Army conducted this exercise in the deserts of Rajasthan on 30th November. The exercise focussed on the synergised application of combat power through the integration of force multipliers and practising new battle techniques.

Exercise Agni Warrior: The 12th edition of the bilateral exercise between the Singapore and Indian armies which commenced on November 13, concluded at the Field Firing Ranges, Deolali in Maharashtra on November 30. The exercise involved showcasing joint firepower planning, execution and use of new generation equipment by the artillery arm of both armies.

ISRO TESTS ITS CRYOGENIC ROCKET ENGINE

The ISRO successfully operated its CE-20 cryogenic rocket engine with a thrust level of 22t for a long duration of 650 seconds on December 23 at the Cryogenic Main Engine & Stage Test Facility of ISRO Propulsion Complex, Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu. The CE20 engine is designed and developed by Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC), Valiamala, Kerala.

ISRO TESTS TRISONIC WIND TUNNEL

The first blow down test of the newly released Trisonic Wind Tunnel was held on 8th December at Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Thiruvananthapuram. The Trisonic Wind Tunnel is a system to aid aerodynamic design of rockets and re-entry spacecrafts by characterising a scaled model by evaluating forces, moments, load distribution, unsteady pressures, acoustic levels etc.

The tunnel has an overall length of about 160m and has a maximum cross section of 5.4m. The tunnel can be used for testing various space vehicles in three flight regimes - below the speed of sound, at the speed of sound and above the speed of sound: hence the name trisonic wind tunnel. The tunnel can simulate flight conditions from 0.2 times the speed of sound (68 m/s) to 4 times the speed of sound (1360 m/s).

INDIA'S FIRST 5.2 AH LITHIUM-ION CELLS

Hyderabad-based battery maker Godi Energy achieved a new milestone by manufacturing India's first ever 5.2 Ah 21700 cylindrical lithium-ion cells with an energy density of 275 Wh/kg based on silicon anode technology. With the use of silicon in the anode, an electric vehicle could achieve a greater range, up to 15-20 percent more compared to graphite anode, on a single charge due to the increased energy density.

It is also the first Indian company to get BIS certification to sell lithium-ion cells made with home-grown technology. With the boom in the EV sector constituting two-, three- and four-wheelers in India and across the world, the need for high energy cells has become very essential.

SEAWAVES TO PRODUCE ELECTRICITY

Researchers at IIT Madras have developed and deployed a system that could generate electricity using energy from seawaves. The system, dubbed Sindhuja-I, was deployed by the researchers about six kilometres from the coast of Tuticorin in Tamil Nadu, where the sea has a depth of about 20 metres. Sindhuja-I can currently produce 100 watts of energy.

It will be scaled up to produce one megawatt of energy in the next three years. Sindhuja-I device is targeted towards remote offshore locations that require reliable electricity and communication such as oil and gas, defence and security installations and communication sectors.

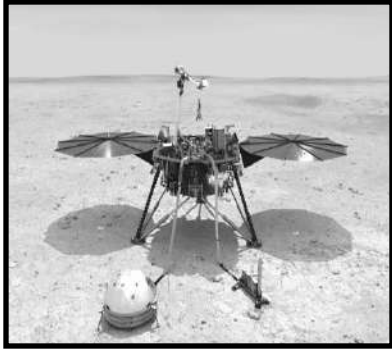
INDIA'S FIRST LAUNCHPAD IN PRIVATE SECTOR

Chennai-based space tech startup Agnikul Cosmos launched India's first private launchpad and mission control centre on Nov 28 at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota. The startup Agnikul has been incubated at the IIT Madras. It plans to launch its customizable Agnibaan Rocket from the launchpad later this month.

Agnibaan is a two-stage launch vehicle that is capable of taking payloads of up to 100 kilograms to a low-earth orbit around 700 kilometres from the surface of the Earth. It will be powered by the company's 3D-printed Agnilet engines.



NASA RETIRES MARS LANDER INSIGHT



US space agency NASA retired its Mars InSight lander on Dec 21, as the spacecraft's solar-powered batteries ran out of energy. The last time InSight communicated with Earth was on December 15.

InSight, short for Interior Exploration using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport, is the first outer space robotic explorer that studied the crust, mantle, and core of Mars. The InSight mission touched down on the red planet on November 27, 2018, after seven months of travelling through space.

NUCLEAR FUSION ACHIEVED FOR THE 1st TIME

In a big leap in energy generation, the USA announced a nuclear fusion breakthrough, achieved for the first time in history. It is seen as a giant step towards the promise of 'near-limitless' clean energy and may help fight to curb climate change. Scientists at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, California for the first time, produced more energy in a fusion reaction than was used to ignite it, something called net energy gain.

Nuclear fusion is a man-made process that replicates the same energy process that powers the Sun. Nuclear fusion happens when two or more atoms are fused into one larger one, a process that generates a massive amount of energy as heat. Proponents of fusion hope that it could one day produce nearly limitless, carbon-free energy, displacing fossil fuels and other traditional energy sources.

WORLD'S FIRST HYDROGEN JET ENGINE

Renowned British aircraft engine maker Rolls-Royce and British low-cost air carrier easyJet, have successfully tested a hydrogen-powered jet engine. The pair say the goal is to curb emissions by 2050 and said the ground test marks "the world's first run of a modern aero engine on hydrogen."

The test used a converted Rolls-Royce AE 2100-A regional aircraft engine to carry out the tests at an outdoor facility in the UK.

SPACECRAFT ORION RETURNS TO EARTH

US space agency NASA successfully brought home its next-generation Orion spacecraft on Dec 11 after a near-26-day mission to orbit the Moon. The Orion capsule for the Artemis I mission splashed down off Mexico's Baja California peninsula in the Pacific Ocean after a fiery reentry into Earth's atmosphere and a descent that was further slowed by parachutes. Because this was a test, there were no people aboard this time, but that will change for the next flight.

WORLD'S 1st STEAM PROPELLED SPACECRAFT

In a world first, Japan's space agency, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) successfully used steam to propel a spacecraft toward the Moon. JAXA's water-powered spacecraft, EQUULEUS (EQUilibriUm Lunar-Earth point 6U), carrying CubeSats (mini satellites) was launched by NASA's Orion spacecraft on Nov 28 on its way to Moon's orbit.

The spacecraft used waste heat from the communications kit to heat the water into steam that is squirted out to produce thrust.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

JANUARY

53rd WEF SUMMIT CONCLUDES AT DAVOS

The 53rd edition of the World Economic Forum's (WEF) annual meeting was held from Jan 16 to 20 in Davos in Switzerland. The theme for this year's WEF meeting is 'Cooperation in a Fragmented World'.

The congregation of experts, academics, investors, and political and business leaders discussed some of the pressing issues the world is facing today, such as the Russia-Ukraine crisis, global inflation and climate change, etc.

Klaus Schwab, Chairman of the WEF said that India remains a bright spot amid geoeconomics and geopolitical crises. The forum also said that it looks forward to continuing its partnership with India during its G20 presidency.

WEF Founder and Executive Chairman is Klaus Schwab. Its President is Borge Brende. It is based in Cologny, Switzerland.

AMAZON RANKED AS TOP BRAND

As per the Global 500-2023 report released by London based Global brand consultancy firm, Brand Finance on Jan 18, Amazon pushed Apple to second place to become the most valuable brand in the world. Apple had previously held the record as the most valuable brand since 2020. Amazon recorded a brand value of \$ 299.3 billion, marginally ahead of Apple's \$ 297.5 billion. Third in ranking was Google (\$281.4 bn) followed by Microsoft (\$191.6 bn).



'GIVING TO AMPLIFY EARTH ACTION' FUND



The World Economic Forum, supported by more than 45 partners launched on Jan 17 the "Giving to Amplify Earth Action" (GAEA), a global initiative to fund and grow new and existing public, private and philanthropic partnerships (PPPPs) to help unlock the \$3 trillion of financing needed each year to reach net zero, reverse nature loss and restore biodiversity by 2050. However, with the energy and rising cost of living crisis, the ambition of steering the world towards a 1.5-degree Celsius warming pathway appears uncertain, primarily due to lack of required funds.

WB SLASHES GLOBAL GROWTH RATE TO 1.7%

The World Bank in its annual report 2022, released on 10th January, slashed its forecast for global growth this year by nearly half, to just 1.7%, from its previous projection of 3%.

"The global economy will come "perilously close" to a recession this year, led by weaker growth in all the three top economies of the world – the United States, Europe and China," said the report.

If that forecast proved accurate, it would be the third-weakest annual expansion in 30 years, behind only the deep recessions that resulted from the 2008 global financial crisis and the coronavirus pandemic in 2020.

The World Bank report also noted that rising interest rates in developed economies like the United States and Europe will attract investment capital from poorer countries, thereby depriving them of crucial domestic investment.

CHINESE SHRINK; FIRST TIME SINCE 1961

China has announced its first overall population decline in recent years amid an ageing society and plunging birth rate. The National Bureau of Statistics reported on Jan 17 that the country had 850,000 fewer people at the end of 2022 than over the previous year. Its population declined for the first time since 1961 due to a plunging birth rate.

That left a total of 1.41 billion, with 9.56 million births (down from 10.62 million in 2021) against 10.41 million deaths (up from 10 million in 2021) in the year 2022.

China has long been the world's most populous nation, but is expected to soon be overtaken by India, as estimates put India's population at more than 1.4 billion and continuing to grow.

5 NON-PERMANENT MEMBERS JOIN UNSC

Five new non-permanent members of the UN Security Council, Ecuador, Japan, Malta, Mozambique and Switzerland started their two-year term on Jan 01. They will join the existing five non-permanent members - Albania, Brazil, Gabon, Ghana, and the UAE as well as the five permanent members China, France, Russia, the UK and the USA.

The 193-member UN General Assembly held elections in June 2022 to elect these five non-permanent members.

CROATIA 20th TO ADOPT EURO CURRENCY

Croatia crossed two important milestones on midnight of Dec 31 as it switched to the Euro currency and entered Europe's passport-free Schengen zone. Croatia bid farewell to its Kuna currency and became the 20th member of the Eurozone.

Croatia removed dozens of border checkpoints to become 27th nation in the Schengen zone, the world's largest passport-free travel area, which enables more than 420 million people to move freely around its members. Croatia joined the 27-nation grouping European Union in 2013.

JAPAN TOPS THE PASSPORT INDEX

According to the latest Henley Passport Index, released on Jan 10 for quarter ending Dec 31, 2022, Japan has retained its position for the fifth successive year as the most favourable passport in the world, allowing visa-free entry to 193 global destinations. Singapore and South Korea came in a joint second (192 countries) on the ranking, followed by Germany and Spain at third spot (190 countries).

The Indian passport was ranked 85th, giving visa-free entry to 59 destinations worldwide. The Bangladeshi passport is the ninth weakest globally as the country ranked 101st out of 109 spots, and Pakistan was much worse at 106th position.

The ranking, published quarterly by London-based immigration consultancy Henley & Partners, includes 199 different passports and 227 different travel destinations. It is the original and most authoritative passport index. The index and its contents are based on data provided by the International Air Transport Authority (IATA).



MEXICO BANS SMOKING IN PUBLIC PLACES



Mexico has brought into force one of the world's strictest anti-tobacco laws by enacting a total ban on smoking in public places that includes parks, beaches, hotels, offices and restaurants. There will also be a total ban on the advertising, promotion and sponsorship of tobacco products, meaning that cigarettes cannot even be on show inside shops. Even the vapes and e-cigarettes are also subject to tighter new restrictions, particularly indoors.

DECEMBER

SEVERE SNOW STORM BATTERS US-CANADA

In the United States and Canada, nearly 150 million people went without power across several states as a dangerously frigid Arctic air mass gripped a vast expanse of the USA and Canada in the fourth week of December. The storm brought damaging intense winds of speeds crossing 100 kmph and freezing temperatures of minus 30 to 40 degree Celsius that led to collapse of power lines at several places. Airlines cancelled over 8,000 flights as massive winter storms snarled airport operations, frustrating tens of thousands of holiday travellers. Even the road and rail traffic was disrupted badly due to the thick snow blanket.

Meteorologists describe the winter storm as a bomb cyclone, a term given to an explosive storm that intensifies rapidly, with its central air pressure dropping by at least 24 millibars in 24 hours.

UNSC's FIRST EVER RESOLUTION ON MYANMAR

The U.N. Security Council adopted its first ever resolution on Myanmar in 74 years on Dec 23 to demand an end to violence in the country. It urged the military junta to release all political prisoners, including ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi and former president Win Myint.

The 15-member council has long been split on how to deal with the Myanmar crisis with China and Russia arguing against strong action. They both abstained from the vote, along with India. The remaining 12 members voted in favour.

Myanmar's military seized power from Suu Kyi's elected government in February 2021, arresting her and other officials, and has responded to pro-democracy protests and dissent with lethal force that has killed several thousand people and seen more than 16,000 jailed.

UN-CBD HELD IN MONTREAL

The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), also called the Conference of Parties (COP-15) was held in Montreal, Canada from Dec 7 to 19. Over 190 countries adopted a landmark Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) to restore natural ecosystems, and agreed to protect 30 percent of the planet and 30 percent of degraded eco-system by 2030.

The Framework comprises 21 targets and 10 'milestones' proposed for 2030, en route to 'living in harmony with nature' by 2050. The GBF is considered equivalent to the Paris Agreement on climate change in terms of its significance for protecting biodiversity.

The CBD, was one of three landmark international agreements to protect the environment, agreed at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992. It sets out guidelines for countries to protect biodiversity, ensure sustainable use, and promote fair and equitable benefit sharing. The other two conventions were "The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

GLOBAL TRADE SWELLS IN 2022 – UNCTAD

According to the latest Global Trade Update, released by UNCTAD on 13 December, global trade is expected to grow by 12 percent to hit a record \$32 trillion for 2022. Despite the war in Ukraine and the lingering impact of the pandemic, trade in both goods and services saw strong growth this year. Trade in goods grew 10% from last year to an estimated \$25 trillion, partly due to higher energy prices while services were up by 15% to a record \$7 trillion.

However, a slowdown that began in the second half of the year is expected to worsen in 2023 as geopolitical tensions and tight financial conditions persist. "Economic growth forecasts for 2023 are being revised downwards due to high energy prices, rising interest rates, sustained inflation in many economies, and negative global economic spillovers from the war in Ukraine," said the report.

UNCTAD – United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is a special UN agency based in Geneva, having 195 members. It provides data based research to its members to use trade, investment, finance, and technology as vehicles for inclusive and sustainable development.

Ms. Rebeca Grynspan of Costa Rica is the first woman and Central American to serve as UNCTAD's current Secretary General.



IRAN OUSTED FROM TOP UN BODY



The UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the UN body for fighting for gender equality, voted on Dec 14 to immediately oust Iran from the Commission on the Status of Women for the remainder of its 2022-2026 term, because of its systematic violation of the rights of women and girls.

The US-sponsored resolution was sparked by Iran's ongoing brutal crackdown on peaceful protesters opposing Iran's strict hijab rules.

The protests began in mid-September this year after the death of a 22-year-old Mahsa Amini who was taken into custody by the morality police for protesting against the wearing of hijab. The incident sparked protests by Iranians on social media and on the streets urging women to publicly remove their veils, a gesture that is regarded as "immoral behaviour" leading to arrest by the local morality police.

Under Iran's sharia (Islamic) law, imposed after the 1979 revolution, women are obliged to cover their hair and wear long, loose-fitting clothes to disguise their figures. Violators face public rebuke, fines or arrest. However, decades after the revolution, clerical rulers still struggle to enforce the law.

NEW ZEALAND BANS CIGARETTES

New Zealand passed a law on Dec 13 banning cigarettes for future generations in the country. It is considering an attempt to bring in a near-total tobacco ban from next year. Retailers licensed to sell tobacco will be cut to six hundred by the end of 2023 from six thousand at present. According to media reports, the law passed by Parliament means that anyone born after 2008 will never be able to buy cigarettes or tobacco products in the country.

G7 FORMS A CLIMATE CLUB

On Germany's initiative, the G7 countries have decided to establish a Climate Club open to all countries in order to advance climate protection worldwide and join hands in the fight against global warming.

A statute was adopted to establish the club. The main focus of the club is on the climate-friendly restructuring of industry. Common rules and standards are to be agreed upon so that competition is not distorted in view of the high investments.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF MILLETS – 2023

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, organised an opening ceremony on Dec 6 for the International Year of Millets – 2023 (IYM2023) in Rome, Italy. The United Nations General Assembly has declared the year 2023 'International Year of Millets'.

An Indian delegation led by Shobha Karandlaje, Minister of State, Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, attended the ceremony. Millets are good for the consumer, cultivator and climate. Millets are nutritious and can be cultivated in semi-arid zones besides consuming less water for irrigation.

Millets' were among the first crops to be domesticated in India with several evidences of its consumption during the Indus valley civilization. In India, millets are primarily a kharif crop, requiring less water and agricultural inputs than other similar staples.

Being grown in more than 130 countries at present, Millets are considered traditional food for more than half a billion people across Asia and Africa. Millets are important by virtue of its mammoth potential to generate livelihood, increase farmers' income and ensure food & nutritional security all over the world.

BOEING SAYS GOODBYE TO JUMBO JET 747

The aerospace giant of the USA, The Boeing Co rolled out its last 747 aircraft on Dec 07 out of its massive factory in Everett, Washington. It marked the end of a glorious era of aviation that started in 1969 when the first Boeing 747 was rolled out. The last plane was delivered to cargo carrier Atlas Air of the USA.

The jumbo jet had many versions – a commercial aircraft capable of carrying nearly 500 passengers, a cargo plane, and the Air Force One presidential aircraft. It was the largest commercial aircraft in the world and the first with two aisles, and it still towers over most other planes.

WORLD'S MOST ADVANCED BOMBER AIRCRAFT

The US Air Force unveiled its newest most advanced military aircraft ever built. Named B-21 Raider, it is the 6th generation nuclear stealth bomber, the first new bomber in 30 years. The B-21 Raider was unveiled during a ceremony on Dec 02 at manufacturer Northrop Grumman's facility in California.

It is estimated to cost nearly \$700 million each. No details of its specifications were released to ensure secrecy of its capabilities. The US Air Force is planning to acquire at least 100 of these aircrafts.



WHO RENAMES MONKEYPOX AS MPOX



The World Health Organization announced a long-awaited change on Nov 28 to change the name of the disease Monkeypox to Mpox, saying that the name sounds “racist and stigmatises patients.” The recommendation follows outbreaks that began about six months ago in Europe and the United States.

However, it will take time to replace a term that has been used for decades. The first human monkeypox case was recorded in 1970. The virus was initially detected years earlier, in captive monkeys. “Both names will be used simultaneously for one year while ‘monkeypox’ is phased out,” WHO said.

Monkeypox is a rare disease similar to smallpox caused by the monkeypox virus. It's found mostly in areas of Africa, but has also been seen in other regions of the world. It causes flu-like symptoms such as fever and chills, and a rash that can take weeks to clear. There's no proven treatment for monkeypox, it usually goes away on its own.

GOBLIN MODE: OXFORD WORD OF THE YEAR

Goblin mode, or a type of behaviour which is unapologetically self-indulgent, lazy, untidy, or greedy, typically in a way that rejects social norms or expectations, has been chosen as the Oxford Word of the Year on Dec 05, after a worldwide public vote.

The slang phrase was one of three shortlisted words put to a vote for the first time, with the others being metaverse or a virtual reality environment and #IstandWith — used on social media to depict solidarity with a cause. Goblin mode won the online vote by a landslide, with 318,956 votes, securing 93% of votes.

'GASLIGHTING'- MW's WORD OF YEAR

Merriam-Webster has selected “gaslighting” as the ‘Word of Year 2022’. Gaslighting is the psychological manipulation of a person, usually over an extended period of time. It refers to behaviour that’s mind manipulating, grossly misleading and downright deceitful. Lookups for the word on merriam-webster.com increased 1,740% in 2022 from last year.

Merriam-Webster, oldest dictionary of the USA, logs 100 million pageviews a month on its site, chooses its word of the year based solely on data.

PERSONS IN NEWS

JANUARY

Captain Harpreet Chandi: A 33-year-old British Sikh Army officer and physiotherapist from Derby in eastern England has set a new world record on Jan 19 for the longest solo, unsupported, and unassisted polar expedition by a woman.

She travelled 1,397 km across Antarctica in temperatures as cold as minus 50 degrees Celsius and facing strong freezing winds all along. She started on Nov 14, 2022 from Hercules Inlet to reach Reedy Glacier within 68 days. She first made history by trekking solo to the South Pole in 2021.

Elon Musk: Tesla and Twitter CEO and the CEO of SpaceX has become the first person ever in the world to lose over \$200 billion (Rs 16.5 lakh crore) from his peak net worth. According to a Bloomberg report, Musk’s wealth dropped to \$132 billion on Dec 28 following a recent drop in Tesla shares. Shares of his electric car company Tesla were down by nearly 65 percent.

Buying Twitter for a whopping \$44 billion gave a big jolt to his net worth. In January 2021, Musk became the richest person in the world for the first time, with a net worth of more than \$185 billion. Musk saw his fortune peak in November 2021, hitting \$340 billion, before a massive drop.

DECEMBER

FM SITHARAMAN 36th MOST POWERFUL LADY

The 19th annual Forbes list of the “World’s 100 Most Powerful Women” released on Dec 06 placed European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen at the top for her leadership during the Ukraine war, as well as her handling of the Covid-19 pandemic. While European Central Bank President Christine Lagarde was placed at 2nd position, US Vice President Kamala Harris was ranked 3rd in the list.

Among Indian ladies, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman secured the highest ranking at 36th spot, for the fourth time in a row. The other five Indians to feature on the list are Roshni Nadar Malhotra (53rd) of HCL Tech, Chairperson, SEBI Chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch (54th), SAIL Chief Soma Mondal (rank: 67), Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw (72) of Biocon group; Falguni Nayar (89) of Nykaa.



4 INDIANS IN BBC 100 LIST



The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) released on Dec 06 the list of 100 most influential women in the world from several areas such as politics, science, sports, entertainment, and literature. The list, unranked, celebrates the achievements of women internationally, from grassroots volunteers to global leaders. \ There are four Indians too in the list, – Actress Priyanka Chopra Jonas, author Geetanjali Shree, engineer and astronaut Sirisha Bandla, social worker Sneha Jawale.

ADANI TOP PHILANTHROPIST IN ASIA

Billionaires Gautam Adani, HCL Technologies's Shiv Nadar, and Happiest Minds Technologies' Ashok Soota are the three Indians who have been named in the 16th edition of Forbes Asia's Heroes of Philanthropy list released on Dec 05. The unranked list mentions 15 notable donors.

Adani was listed for having pledged Rs 60,000 crores (USD 7.7 billion) when he turned 60 in June this year. Shiv Nadar donated Rs 11,600 crore (USD 142 million) to Shiv Nadar Foundation. Ashok Soota pledged Rs 600 crore (USD 75 million) to his medical research trust.

Vikram Doraiswami: Indian High Commissioner to the UK became the first Indian diplomat to present his credentials to King Charles III on Dec 8, in a deeply traditional ceremony that included a classic horse-drawn carriage with the diplomat onboard, riding through the streets of London to Buckingham Palace.

Doraiswami and his wife, Sangeeta, were collected from their official residence in a State Landau, as the ceremonial horse-drawn carriage is known, for the audience with the King which takes place in one of the state rooms at Buckingham Palace.

He is the first Indian envoy to be received at the palace by the King since the death of Britain's longest-serving monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, on September 8.

PV Sindhu, India's top badminton star is the only Indian player in the top 25 in Forbes' annual list of the highest-paid female athletes in 2022 in the world. Sindhu, the 2016 Rio Olympics silver medallist, occupies the 12th spot in the list with earnings of \$ 7 million (Rs.57.83 cr). Japanese tennis star Naomi Osaka tops the list with earnings of \$ 51.1 million.

Sargam Koushal: Beauty queen from Jammu scripted history on Dec 18 as she won the "Mrs World 2022" title at a glittering event that took place in Las Vegas, USA. The 32-year-old Sargam secured the crown for India after 21 years, beating contestants from 63 countries. Mrs World Dr Aditi Govitrikar won the title 21 years ago in 2001.

Ms. Cherisha Chanda, 17-year-old teenaged beauty from Gurugram, Haryana, created history on Dec 18 by winning the first Miss Eco Teen Pageant held at Marsa Alam, Egypt. One of the largest beauty contests, Miss Eco Teen, has its headquarters in Egypt.

Neeraj Chopra: Data released by the World Athletics, international governing body for the sport of athletics, shows that India's javelin star Neeraj Chopra became the world's most written-about athlete in 2022, attracting 812 articles. He is followed by Jamaican sprinter Ms. Elaine Thompson-Herah (751 articles).

Sonakshi Sinha: Popular Bollywood actress was named PETA's Person of the Year recognising her actions to help save animals killed for fashion and her strong advocacy for dogs and cats in need.

PETA - People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals is the largest animal rights organisation in the world, having more than 9 million members and supporters globally. It was founded in 1980 and is dedicated to establishing and defending the rights of all animals. It is based in Norfolk, Virginia (USA).

Dr. Deepa Malik: Union Health Ministry on Nov 26 designated Dr. Deepa Malik, President of the Paralympic Committee of India, as ambassador of 'Ni-Kshay Mitra' campaign launched for providing support to TB patients. It is an initiative under Pradhan Mantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan. Dr Malik herself is a TB survivor.

MUSK IS NO MORE THE RICHEST PERSON

After holding the numero uno position since September 2021, Elon Musk is no longer the wealthiest person in the world, thanks to the plummeting price of Tesla shares, which dragged him to second place. Investors have been punishing Tesla stock of late as Musk has spent much of his time running Twitter, raising fears that he's distracted from the car company.



The Twitter owner has been dethroned by Louis Vuitton boss Bernard Arnault. According to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, as on Dec 14, Arnault's wealth swelled to \$171 billion (₹14.12 lakh crore) while Musk slipped to \$164 billion (₹13.55 lakh crore). However, the Forbes real time billionaires list as on Dec 14 showed Arnault wealth at \$ 187 bn while that of Musk stood at \$ 176.8 bn.

Volodymyr Zelenskyy: President of Ukraine has been named as "TIME 2022 Person of the Year" by the New York based global news magazine TIME. Zelenskyy, 44, established himself as a symbol of defiance and democracy as he continues to lead the nation through Russia's unprovoked attacks on Ukraine. Amid the war, Zelenskyy has risen as a braveheart who is inspiring not just his country but also other European nations.

APPOINTMENTS

JANUARY

Ajay Kumar Srivastava: Appointed as the Managing Director and CEO of Indian Overseas Bank with effect from January 1, 2023. Currently, he is the executive director in IOB.

Chris Hipkins: Senior leader of New Zealand's ruling Labour Party was selected as the new Prime Minister of the country on Jan 22 after Ms. Jacinda Ardern announced her resignation on Jan 19.

DECEMBER

Hansraj Gangaram Ahir: Former Union Minister appointed Chairperson of the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC). A four-time former MP from Chandrapur, Maharashtra, he is an agriculturist by profession.

Bhupendra Patel: Gujarat BJP leader was sworn in as the 18th Chief Minister of Gujarat on Dec 12.

Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu: Sworn in as the new Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh. He is from the Congress party.

Dinesh Kumar Shukla: Senior nuclear scientist has been appointed as the chairperson of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board, Mumbai for a period of three years.

Sundararaman Ramamurthy: Appointed as the managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO) of the Bombay Stock Exchange.

K V Shaji: Appointed as the Chairman of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). He is a former Dy Managing Director of NABARD.



N Chandrasekaran: Chairman of Tata Sons, has been chosen to lead B20 India, the organisation that speaks for the whole G20 business community. The B20 India process will be coordinated by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). The B20 India Summit will be held in August, 2023.

Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda': Appointed as the Prime Minister of Nepal by the President Bidhya Devi Bhandari. He is a former Maoist guerilla leader.

Leo Varadkar: Indian-origin politician returned to power for a second term as Ireland's Prime Minister. He held the PM's post earlier in 2017-20.

Ms. Mette Frederiksen: Re-elected as the Prime Minister of Denmark, heading Social Democratic Party.

Dina Boluarte: Assumed office as the first female President of Peru, following the impeachment of former President Pedro Castillo.

Sheikh Hasina: Prime Minister of Bangladesh was appointed as the "Global Ambassador for Diabetes" by the International Diabetic Federation (IDF) based in Brussels, Belgium. She will discharge the duty of "Global Ambassador for Diabetes" for the next two years as the representative of the diabetic patients for their wellbeing.

AWARDS & HONOURS

JANUARY

PADMA AWARDS ANNOUNCED FOR 2023



The President of India approved the conferment of the highest civil honours (after the Bharat Ratna) of the country - the Padma Awards for the year 2023. In total 106 awards, six were Padma Vibhushan, nine Padma Bhushan and 91 Padma Shri were announced on Jan 25. Nineteen of the awardees are women.

Balkrishna Doshi, renowned architect and educator, Dilip Mahalanobis, pioneer of Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS), and former Samajwadi Party chief Mulayam Singh Yadav were awarded Padma Vibhushan posthumously.

Other three Padma Vibhushan awardees included former chief minister of Karnataka and former Governor of Maharashtra, S M Krishna, Tabla Maestro Zakir Hussain and Abel prize winner pioneer mathematician from USA, S R Srinivasa Varadhan.

The nine Padma Bhushan awardees included Kannada novelist and screenwriter S L Bharyappa, Industrialist Kumar Mangalam Birla, author and philanthropist Sudha Murthy and eminent vocalists Vani Jairam and Suman Kalyanpur.

91 Padma Shri awardees included a good number of lesser-known outstanding social workers, artisans, educators, many of them from tribal areas. They also included share market king Rakesh Jhunjhunwala, Naatu Naatu fame music composer M M Keeravaani and popular actress Raveena Tandon.

VIZAG RLY STATION WINS GREEN AWARD

East Coast Railway's Visakhapatnam railway station has received the prestigious 'Green Railway Station Certification' with the highest Platinum rating. The certificate has been awarded by the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) for adopting green concepts.

The railway station has performed well in various categories such as – sustainable facilities, health, hygiene, energy and water efficiency, smart green initiatives, innovation, and development.

"NAATU NAATU" WINS GOLDEN GLOBE

Indian film RRR's super hit song "Naatu Naatu" won the prestigious Golden Globe award for Best Original Song on Jan 11 in the USA. The history creating track from the director SS Rajamouli's blockbuster movie is composed by MM Keeravani.

The singers are Kaala Bhairava and Rahul Sipligunj. "Naatu Naatu," which became an anthem of sorts for the Rajamouli fans, is a dance number featuring Jr NTR and Ram Charan. It created ripples for its elaborate choreography and musical storytelling.

Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan

Puraskar: Awarded to Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA) and to Lunglei Fire Station (LFS), Mizoram for rendering excellent services in disaster management. OSDMA provided effective response during various cyclones, saving thousands of lives. LFS responded efficiently and effectively to handle a massive forest fire in April 2021.

The award has been instituted by the ministry of home affairs to recognize and honour the invaluable contribution and selfless service rendered by individuals and organisations in India in the field of disaster management. The award is announced every year on 23rd January, the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 51 lakh and a certificate in case of an institution and Rs. 5 lakh and a certificate in case of an individual.

UN- Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023: Won by Odisha for its Jaga mission, world's largest land titling and slum upgrading programme. It aims at empowering the lives of slum dwellers. In the last five years of the initiative, 1,75,000 families have been granted land tenure security.

Atal Samman Award: Dr. Prabhu Chandra Mishra, a pioneer in stem cell research, was honoured for his excellence in the field of science & research. His area of work is Stem Cell & Regenerative Medicine in infertility especially when IVF also fails.

Miss Universe 2022: Won by R'Bonney Gabriel of USA on Jan 14 at a ceremony held in New Orleans, USA. The crown was presented to her by India's Harnaaz Kaur Sandhu who had won the 2021 title.



Golden Globe Awards - 2023

The 80th edition of the Golden Globe Awards ceremony was held on Jan 11 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Los Angeles, California. The ceremony returned to a physical edition after a two-year break.

Best Film-Drama: The Fabelmans by Steven Spielberg

Best Director: Steven Spielberg - The Fabelmans

Best Actor: Austin Butler - Elvis

Best Actress: Cate Blanchett - Tár

DECEMBER

Golden Peacock and other awards at IFFI

The 53rd International Film Festival of India (IFFI) concluded in Goa on Nov 28. The closing ceremony was held at Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Stadium near Panaji. Various awards given at the end of festival are as under:

Golden Peacock for Best Film (Rs 40 lakh): 'I have Electric Dreams'; Spanish film directed by Valentina Maurel, from Costa Rica

Silver Peacock for Best Director (Rs15 lakh): Nader Saeivar of Iran for Turkish film 'No End'.

Silver Peacock for Best Actor (Rs 10 lakh): Vahid Mobasheri of Iran for film No End

Silver Peacock for Best Actress (Rs 10 lakh): Daniela Marin Navarro for the film 'I Have Electric Dreams'

Special Jury Award (Rs15 lakh): Lav Diaz, director of When The Waves Are Gone

'Dear Diary' wins 53-Hour Challenge

The second edition of '75 Creative Minds of Tomorrow' competition at International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa was won by the short film 'Dear Diary' made by Team Purple.

The film was made under the "53-Hour Challenge" where the 75 Creative Minds selected from all over the country were asked to produce a short film on their idea of India@100, all in 53 hours.

Pride of Central India 2022 Award: won by Atul Patidar, founder and CEO of Farmkart, Central India's first agritech startup, for transforming the lives of lakhs of rural farmers in the region. Farmkart designs innovative technology solutions for farmers who have little or zero knowledge of modern technology.

'Kheyti' wins Earthshot Prize



Kheyti, an Indian startup in Telangana that designed the "greenhouse-in-a-box" for small hold farmers, won the one million pound Earthshot Prize in the "Protect and Restore Nature" category. The aim of greenhouse-in-a-box is to reduce costs and increase yields which in turn would help protect the livelihoods of the farmers.

Founded by Prince William (of UK) this was the second edition of the Earthshot prizes. The prize aims to seek out and support solutions to environmental challenges under 5 categories: Protect and Restore Nature, Clean our Air, Revive our Oceans, Build a Waste Free World, and Fix our Climate. Each winner is given one million pounds to expand his/her idea.

Miss Earth 2022: South Korea's Mina Sue Choi won the title on November 29 at Cove Manila, Philippines.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

JANUARY

Roller Coaster: An Affair with Banking by Tamal Bandyopadhyay

Fit at Any Age by Air Marshal PV Iyer (retd.)

Ambedkar: A Life by Shashi Tharoor

Jadunama by Arvind Mandloi, biography of famous writer and poet Javed Akhtar

Revolutionaries- The Other Story of How India Won its Freedom by Sanjeev Sanyal, noted economist

Coaching Beyond: My Days with the Indian Cricket Team by R. Kaushik & R. Sridhar

The Bandit Queens by Parini Shroff

Spare by Prince Harry, Memoirs of the second son of King Charles III and his first wife, Diana

All the Dangerous Things by Stacy Willingham

Hell Bent by Leigh Bardugo

Age of Vice by Deepti Kapoor

DECEMBER

Forks in the Road: My days at RBI and Beyond- Memoirs of Dr. C. Rangarajan, former governor of RBI

India: The Mother of Democracy prepared by Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR)

Bravehearts of Bharat, Vignettes from Indian History by Vikram Sampath

Miracles of Face Yoga by Mansi Gulati

Sultan: A Memoir - Autobiography of Pakistani cricketer Wasim akram

The Light We Carry: Overcoming in Uncertain Times by Michelle Obama

Sorrow and Starlight (Zodiac Academy #8) by Caroline Peckham & Susanne Valenti

Five Survive by Holly Jackson

The Last Invitation by Darby Kane

The Light Pirate by Lily Brooks, Dalton

OBITUARY

JANUARY

Balkrishna Doshi: Leading modern Indian architect, urban planner and educator passed away on Jan 24 at the age of 95. His extraordinary repertoire includes top educational campuses, including for CEPT University, Ahmedabad; NIFT, New Delhi; and IIM Bangalore; besides several others. He authored his biography 'Paths Uncharted', recounting his exceptional journey of achievements.

He was a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects (awarded in 2022) and a Fellow of the Indian Institute of Architects. Doshi was awarded one of the world's highest honours for architecture, the Royal Gold Medal for 2022 by the British Queen.

Sharad Yadav: Former Union Minister and RJD leader passed away on Jan 12 at the age of 75. The veteran politician from Bihar was ailing for some time and breathed his last at a private hospital in Gurugram. The seven-time Lok Sabha MP and a four-term Rajya Sabha MP, was the founder president of Janta Dal (1997-2003) and later of Janta Dal (U) (2003 -2016), which later merged with the RJD led by Lalu Yadav.

Keshari Nath Tripathi: A former Governor of West Bengal (2014-19) died at his Prayagraj home in Uttar Pradesh on Jan 08. Tripathi, a veteran BJP leader, was 88. He was a member of the UP legislative assembly six times.

Heeraben Modi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mother passed away at a hospital in Ahmedabad at the age of 99 years in the early hours of Dec 30, due to old age ailments. Prime Minister Narendra Modi performed the last rites of his mother in Gandhinagar. Fondly called Heeraba, she entered her 100th year on June 18 this year.



Gina Lollobrigida: Italian film legend, the diva who came to represent Italy's vibrant rebirth after World War II during the 1950s, passed away on Jan 16 at the age of 95 in Rome, Italy.



She was dubbed as "the most beautiful woman in the world" after the title of one of her movies. She was regarded as one of the biggest stars of European cinema in the 1950s and '60s.

Pope Benedict XVI: Supreme Catholic leader Pope Emeritus breathed his last at the age of 95 due to old age-related ailments on the morning of Dec 31 at his residence in the Mater Ecclesiae Monastery in Vatican City. Pope Benedict XVI led the Catholic Church from April 2005 till Feb 2013 when he resigned from the Papacy due to his ailing health, becoming the first Pope to resign since Gregory XII in 1415.

Pele: Legendary Brazilian footballer passed away at the age of 82, losing his fight against cancer in a hospital in São Paulo, Brazil. Known as "King of Football", his formal name was Edson Arantes do Nascimento and Pele was his popular name.

Widely regarded as one of soccer's greatest players, Pele achieved a world record of 1,281 goals in 1,363 appearances during a 21-year career, including 77 goals in 92 matches for his country. He is the only player to win the World Cup three times, in 1958, 1962 and 1970. Pele was named FIFA Player of the Century in 2000.

DECEMBER

Prof Yoginder K Alagh: Renowned economist, academician and a former Union minister, died at his home in Ahmedabad on Dec 06 at the age of 83. He is credited with development of the concept of minimum Support Price of major crops, price decontrol in steel, cement and aluminium, and fixing of separate poverty line for rural and urban areas.

He was a regular columnist for The Indian Express and Financial Express for over four decades. He was a member of the Planning Commission between 1987-90.

Dominique Lapierre: The bestselling French author well-known in India for his ode to the city of Kolkata titled "The City of Joy (1985)", died on Dec 4 aged 91. The book tells the story of the unsung heroes of Kolkata's Pilkhana slum, including the struggles of a rickshaw puller.

His equally popular book "Freedom at Midnight (1975)", coauthored with his longtime associate, Larry Collins, sold millions of copies. It is a factual account of the events leading up to Indian Independence. Some of his most memorable books include "Is Paris Burning?", "O Jerusalem", and "The Fifth Horseman".

Lapierre was conferred the Padma Bhushan in 2008.

Vikram Gokhale: Veteran Marathi actor passed away in Pune on Nov 26 at the age of 77. In a career spanning more than 50 years, Gokhale mastered all three media of theatre, TV and cinema, both in Marathi and Hindi.

PLACES IN NEWS

JANUARY

California: Torrential downpours and damaging winds left hundreds of thousands of homes and businesses without power in California, the western state of the USA in the first week of January. More than 5,60,000 homes were reported to be without power. Successive heavy rain storms since late December brought rivers to record-high levels causing flooding across much of Central California.

Kimberley: A sparsely populated area in Western Australia, famous for its deep diamond mines, was devastated by severe flash floods in the first week of January, sparked by severe weather system Ellie, a tropical cyclone that brought heavy rain. It was termed as a one-in-100-year flood event, the worst flooding Western Australia has had in its history.

DECEMBER

CSM Vastu Sangrahalaya: Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya (CSMVS) (formerly Prince of Wales Museum) in Mumbai was conferred with the 'Award of Excellence' at the UNESCO's Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation-2022 for its outstanding restoration efforts for the 100 year old Victorian Gothic and Art Deco Ensembles of Museum, a World Heritage Property.

The museum was established in 1922 by Britishers and prominent local citizens to commemorate the 1904 visit of the Prince of Wales, the future King George V. The museum collection comprises approximately 50,000 artefacts, categorised mainly into three sections: art, archaeology and natural history.



Singapore remains most expensive city



The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) has rated Singapore and New York as the most expensive cities to live in among the 172 featured in the Worldwide Cost of Living (WCOL) survey published earlier this month.

It was observed that despite their higher-than-average costs, both cities have been very attractive options for meetings and events as they have extremely well-connected airports, plenty of accommodation and venue options to suit different budgets and preferences, world-class transport and medical infrastructure, and they offer a high level of safety.

The EIU said the war in Ukraine and continuing supply-chain problems have contributed to price rises, averaging 8.1%, the highest rate in the 20 years for which it has digital cost-of-living data.

Cyclone Mandous: The tropical cyclonic storm made a landfall near Mamallapuram in North Tamil Nadu and adjoining areas of Andhra Pradesh, in the wee hours of Dec 10. Later, the cyclone weakened as it moved north westward over the landmass. Gusty winds of up to 75 kmph lashed the coastal areas, bringing in heavy rains.

Mount Semeru: Highest volcano in Indonesia's main island Java erupted violently on Dec 04 sending ash billowing up into the sky over 1500 meters. Nearly 10,000 people were evacuated from the area around the volcano. Indonesia sits on the Pacific "Ring of Fire" where tectonic plates collide, causing frequent volcanic activity as well as earthquakes.

Mauna Loa volcano: The world's largest active volcano, Hawaii's Mauna Loa, started erupting on the night of Nov 27, for the first time in almost 40 years. Mauna Loa, which means "long mountain" in Hawaiian, covers 5,271 sq km, and is one of a chain of five volcanoes which form Hawaii's Big Island.

The latest eruption began at the volcano's summit caldera named Mokuaweoweo. It covers an area of 15 sq km and is 180 mt deep. Calderas are hollows that form beneath the summit at the end of an eruption. Mauna Loa last erupted in March and April of 1984, sending lava flows within 8 kilometres of the city of Hilo, the island's most populous town.

SPORTS WORLD

JANUARY

Shubman Gill, at 23 years and 132 days, became the youngest batsman to hit a double hundred in ODIs. He is also the 5th Indian batter to get to the milestone. His achievement came on Jan 18 during the first ODI between India and New Zealand in Hyderabad.

Yuki Bhambri and Saketh Myneni, top seeded Indian tennis champs won the Bangkok Open title on Jan 15 at Nonthaburi, Thailand.

Umran Malik, India's pace wonder, registered 156 kph on the speed radar on Jan 10 in the ODI against Sri Lanka at the Barsapara Cricket Stadium, Guwahati. The player became the fastest Indian bowler in ODI, surpassing Jasprit Bumrah's record for 153.6 kph.

Koneru Humpy, Indian GrandMaster won India's first-ever Silver medal in the FIDE World Blitz Chess Championships in Almaty, Kazakhstan. She lost the gold by just half a point difference.

15 year old Savitha Shri won the bronze in FIDE World Rapid Chess Championship, becoming the third Indian to win a medal at the World Rapid Championship after Viswanathan Anand and Koneru Humpy.

Ms. Anahat Singh, Indian squash prodigy clinched the girls' Under-15 squash title on Jan 08 at the most prestigious British Junior Open tournament in Birmingham, UK.

M Pranesh, 16-year-old Chess prodigy from Tamil Nadu, became India's 79th Grandmaster on Jan 06 having crossed the 2500 ELO score by winning the FIDE Rilton Cup in Stockholm, Sweden.

Koustav Chatterjee, 19 year-old Kolkata-based chess player, became India's 78th Grand Master on Dec 31 in the MPL 59th National Senior Chess Championship in New Delhi.



Falak Mumtaz, an 11-year-old girl from Jammu and Kashmir bagged a gold medal in the 23rd National Sqay Championship held in Jammu in the first week of January.

Sqay is an ancient martial art created and practised by the people of Kashmir. 'Sqay' is a Persian word that means "knowledge of war".

Vijay Merchant Trophy: Punjab U-16 won the trophy by defeating Madhya Pradesh U-16 in the finals played on Jan 19 in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. This is the national level under 16 championship in one day cricket.

Yonex Sunrise India Open Badminton 2023: Men's singles title won by Thailand's Kunlavut Vitidsarn, defeating reigning world champion Denmark's Viktor Axelsen, on Jan 22 in New Delhi.

S. Korea's An Se-young won the women's title by defeating world number one, Akane Yamaguchi of Japan.

India ruins Sri Lanka by 317 runs

India scripted history on Jan 15 by defeating Sri Lanka by the largest ever margin (in the world) of 317 runs in the third and final ODI in Thiruvananthapuram. Previous record of a win by a largest ever margin was New Zealand's win over Ireland with 290-run in 2008.

FIH Men's Hockey World Cup 2022 got off to a colourful start on Jan 11 in the historic Barabati stadium in Cuttack, Odisha. Opening matches of the tournament are to be played on Jan 13 at Bhubaneswar and Rourkela. In the first match of the tournament, India defeated Spain 2-0 at Birsa Munda Stadium in Rourkela.

India's largest Hockey Stadium

The largest hockey stadium in India was inaugurated on Jan 05 in Rourkela, Odisha. Ready to host the inaugural match of the FIH Hockey World Cup on Jan 13, it has seating capacity of 21,000 spectators. Built at an estimated cost of ₹261 crore, the stadium has been christened as Birsa Munda International Hockey Stadium.



Cash prizes for Hockey team

Hockey India announced cash prizes on Dec 24 for each member of the Indian team and support staff for the forthcoming FIH men's World Cup to be played in Bhubaneswar-Rourkela in January 2023 to motivate the players. India won the last World Cup in 1975 where it defeated Pakistan in the final held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Achievement	For Team Members	For Support Staff
Gold medal	25	5
Silver Medal	15	3
Bronze Medal	10	2

Viacom 18 gets media rights for WIPL

Media group Viacom 18 secured the global media rights for the upcoming Women's IPL T20 League for a whopping Rs 951 crore for five years, in the auction held by the BCCI. The global rights comprise three categories linear (TV), digital and combined (TV and digital). The tournament is expected to begin in the first week of March 2023 in Mumbai.

INTERNATIONAL

ICC Annual Awards 2022 announced

The International Cricket Council (ICC) announced its first individual winners in the ICC Awards 2022, on Jan 25.

Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy for the Cricketer of the year (men): Babar Azam, Pakistan

Test Cricketer of the Year: Ben Stokes, all-rounder from Australia

ODI Cricketer of the Year: Babar Azam, Pakistan

T20 Cricketer of the Year: Suryakumar Yadav, India

Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy for the Cricketer of the year (women): Nat Sciver, England

ODI Cricketer of the Year: Nat Sciver, England

T20 Cricketer of the Year: Tahlia McGrath, Australia

Malaysia Open Super 1000: Badminton world champions, Akane Yamaguchi and Viktor Axelsen respectively won the women's and men's singles titles at the finals held in Kuala Lumpur.

DECEMBER

Geto Sora, 7-year-old badminton prodigy from Arunachal won the Top Arena Junior (Boys) International Badminton Championship title on December 23 in the below 9 years category, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. This is his second international title in two months.

Ishan Kishan, Indian batter smashed the fastest double hundred in the history of ODI cricket, scoring 210 off 131 balls, playing against Bangladesh on Dec 10 at Chattogram, Bangladesh. He slammed 24 fours and 10 sixes.

Shooter Rudrankksh Patil clinched the gold on Dec 02 in the 10 mt Air Rifle event in the ISSF President's Cup at Cairo, Egypt.

Aditya Mittal, 16-year-old Chess star from Maharashtra became the 77th Grandmaster on Dec 06. He achieved this feat while playing in the sixth round of the El Llobregat Open Chess Tournament in Spain.

Rohit Sharma became the first Indian, and just the second batter world-wide, in international cricket to hit 500 sixes. He reached the milestone on Dec 7 playing against Bangladesh in Dhaka.

Rohit's tally of 500 international sixes is bettered by only West Indies legend Chris Gayle, who has 533 sixes. MS Dhoni with 359 sixes is the closest to Rohit among Indian players

Indian archers topped the medals tally at the Asia Cup 2022 stage 3 with 10 medals – five golds, three silvers and two bronze. The meet was held in Sharjah, UAE from December 20 to 25.

T20 World Cup for the Blind: The Indian national blind cricket team made history on Dec 17 as they won the T20 World Cup for the Blind for the third consecutive time by beating Bangladesh in the finals played at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru. Six teams took part in the tournament.

FIH Women's Nations Cup 2022: The Indian team led by Savita Punia defeated Spain 1-0 in the final to lift the cup in the finals played on Dec 17 at Valencia, Spain.

8th Junior Wushu World Championship: India finished with a record eight medals, including three gold, three silver and two bronze in the tournament held in Tangerang, Indonesia from Dec 3 to 11.

BWF Female Para-Badminton Player of the Year 2022: Won by para shuttler Manisha Ramadass during a ceremony on Dec 5 in Bangkok. She won the gold medal in the women's singles SU5 category at the para-badminton world championships last month.

Viktor Axelsen (Denmark) and **Akane Yamaguchi** (Japan) were declared BWF Male/Female Player of the Year, respectively.

Vijay Hazare Trophy: Saurashtra beat Maharashtra by 5 wickets to lift their second Vijay Hazare Trophy in the final played at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on Dec 02. Also known as the Ranji One-Day Trophy, it is a national level tournament played in ODI format.

Youth Men's and Women's World Boxing Championships held in La Nucia, Spain, India bagged 11 medals including four gold, three silver and four bronze.

Indian shuttlers concluded their campaign on Dec 4 at the Asia Junior Badminton Championship held from Nov 29 to Dec 4 at Nonthaburi, Thailand with five medals which included three silver and two bronze medals.

81st Annual Madras-Colombo Rowing Regatta: The Madras Boating Club (women) won the Adyar trophy on Nov 26 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The Men's category was won by Colombo Rowing Club, and they were awarded Deepam Trophy.

Ruturaj Gaikwad, Maharashtra captain in the Vijay Hazare Trophy, scripted history by smashing seven sixes in an over (including a no ball) to set a List A world record on Nov 28 in Ahmedabad. He was playing against Uttar Pradesh team and Shiva Singh was the bowler.

Shafali Verma, opening batter of Indian women cricket team has been named captain of India's 15-member squad for the ICC U-19 Women's T20 World Cup to be held in South Africa from January 14 to 29, 2023.

Tata Steel Limited signed a MoU with Hockey India on Dec 13 to become the 'official partner' of the FIH Odisha Hockey Men's 15th World Cup 2023 to be played in Bhubaneswar-Rourkela from January 13 to 29, 2023.

Legendary athlete P T Usha was elected unopposed as the President of the Indian Olympic Association, IOA. Fondly called the 'Payyoli Express' for her awesome speed, she is the first woman to occupy the top job at IOA in its 95-year history and she is also the first international medalist to take over the top post.

The BCCI entered into the Guinness Book of World Records for the largest attendance at a T20 match. A record 101,566 people witnessed the epic IPL final between Gujarat Titans and Rajasthan Royals at the magnificent Narendra Modi Stadium in Motera, Ahmedabad on 29 May 2022. Spread over 63 acres, the stadium has a seating capacity of 1,32,000 spectators.

IPL becomes a 'Decacorn'

BCCI's money spinner Indian Premier League (IPL) has become India's first sports decacorn as its latest valuation crossed \$ 10 billion. The league is currently valued at \$10.9 billion. A decacorn refers to a business whose valuation is more than \$10 billion.

Notably, it has increased by an astonishing 75% since 2020. IPL started in 2008.



E-sports to be part of regular games

The President of India, in exercise of the powers “conferred by clause (3) of article 77 of the Constitution” amended the rules governing Esports and asked the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and the Sports Ministry to include “e-Sports as part of multi-sports events”.

Accordingly, the government officially recognised e-sports in the country and issued a gazette notification on Dec 26 to this effect. Now, the IT Ministry will be the nodal agency for online gaming-related matters and the sports Ministry will be the executing agency.

E-Sports, short for electronic sports, is a form of competition using video games. There has been a growing demand for Esports to be included in the curriculum of multi-discipline events after it was included in the 2018 Jakarta Asian Games as a demonstration sport, meaning medals won in the sport were not counted in the official overall medals tally.

INTERNATIONAL

2022 FIFA WORLD CUP: Led by charismatic 35-year-old Lionel Messi, Argentina beat France (led by Hugo Lloris) 4-2 on penalties to win the 2022 FIFA World Cup after a 3-3 draw in a thrilling final on Dec 18 at the Lusail Stadium in Doha, Qatar.

The win marks Argentina's third-ever World Cup victory and first since 1986.

The World Cup has gone out of Europe after a gap of 20 years. The third rank was secured by Croatia after defeating Morocco.

FIFA Final Awards

Golden Ball (Best Player): Lionel Messi of Argentina, first to win the Golden Ball twice, first in 2014.

Golden Boot (for highest goals): France's striker Kylian Mbappe for scoring eight goals in the tournament

Golden Glove (Best Goalkeeper): Emiliano Martinez, Argentina for achieving four saves in shootouts and three clean sheets (not allowing a single goal)

Young Player of the Tournament: Enzo Fernandez, central midfielder from Argentina

ITF world champion 2022: Rafael Nadal and Iga Swiatek won the International Tennis Federation's world champion award for men and women, respectively, on Dec 15 in London.

Both won two grand slams each in 2022, besides several other titles. ITF is the London based governing body of tennis in the world.

Iga Swiatek, the 21-year-old Polish tennis star was selected as the WTA Player of the Year-2022 for the first time on Dec 12. She is currently No. 1 in the rankings, since April, 2022.

WTA-Women Tennis Association, based in St Petersburg, Florida (USA, is the apex global organisation for holding women's tennis tournaments.

World Athlete of the Year 2022

International governing body of athletics, World Athletics declared the World Athlete of the Year 2022 on Dec 05.

Women: Sydney McLaughlin, hurdles world champion from USA; created a new world record of 50.68 seconds in 400m hurdles

Men: Armand Duplantis, Swedish pole-vaulter, won his first world title with a new world record, jumping 6.21mt.

Ms. Stéphanie Frappart: The 38 year old French referee became the first woman to take charge of a men's World Cup game when she handled Germany vs Costa Rica on Dec 01 in Qatar.

Davis Cup: Canada won its first Davis cup title on Nov 27 by defeating Australia in the finals played in Malaga, Spain. The Davis Cup is the premier international team event in men's tennis.

DAYS & DATES

FEBRUARY

01	Jaya Ekadashi
02	World Wetlands Day
04	World Cancer Day
05	Purnima
07	Safer Internet Day
10	The National Deworming Day
10	World Pulses Day
11	Unani Day
11	International Day of Women and Girls in Science
12	National Productivity Day
12	Darwin Day
13	World Radio Day; Kumbha Sankranti
13	National Women's Day
(13), 2 nd Mon.	International Epilepsy Day
15	Swami Dayananda Saraswati Jayanti
18	Maha Shivratri
(18), 3 rd Sat.	World Pangolin Day
19	Soil Health Card Day; Chhatrapati Shivaji Jayanti
20	World Social Justice Day, Amavasya
21	International Mother Language Day
22	World Thinking Day
22	World Thinking Day
24	Central Excise Day
24	Central Excise Day
28	National Science Day
27	National Protein Day
Last day of Feb 28/29	World Rare Decease Day

January 4: World Braille Day



The day is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of French educator and inventor Louis Braille. In 1924, he developed a system of printing and writing, called Braille, that is extensively used by the blind.

It is a language based on six convex embossed dots that form all the letters and symbols, using which the people with visual disabilities are able to read various text content. They are able to read the text by moving their fingers over the dots.

Louis Braille was born on 4th January 1809 in the town of Coupvray in northern France. He lost his eyesight at the age of just three years.

January 6: World Day of War Orphans

The day aims to raise awareness about children orphaned in wars or conflicts, and spread information about their plight. These children experience psychological, social, and physical obstacles as they grow up.

This year's theme is "Standing up for War-Affected Children" and is meant to focus global attention on the challenges these children face and how to best meet their needs.

The Day was started by the French NGO, SOS Enfants enDétrese. According to UNICEF, an estimated 153 million children worldwide are orphans. UNICEF defines an orphan as a "child under 18 years of age who has lost one or both parents to any cause of death".

January 9: Pravasi Bharatiya Divas

The day is celebrated once in every two years to strengthen the engagement of the overseas Indian community with the Government of India and reconnect them with their roots.

Established in 2003, the celebratory event is organised by the Ministry of External Affairs. It commemorates the return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa to India on 9 January, 1915.

January 10: World Hindi Day

Celebrated every year, to mark the anniversary of the first World Hindi Conference which was held in Nagpur, Maharashtra in 1975 on this day. It intends to promote

Hindi language around the world. Hindi has evolved from Sanskrit and is written in Devanagari script. Spoken by over 300 million native speakers, Hindi is the fourth most-spoken first language in the world, after Chinese, Spanish and English.

The 12th World Hindi Conference will be organised in Fiji from February 15 to 17.

Remember! *National Hindi Diwas is observed on Sep 14.*

Jan 11: National Human Trafficking Awareness Day

This day is specifically dedicated to awareness and prevention of illegal practice of human trafficking. Started by the USA in 2007, the day aims at raising awareness of the plight of human trafficking victims, and promoting and protecting their rights.

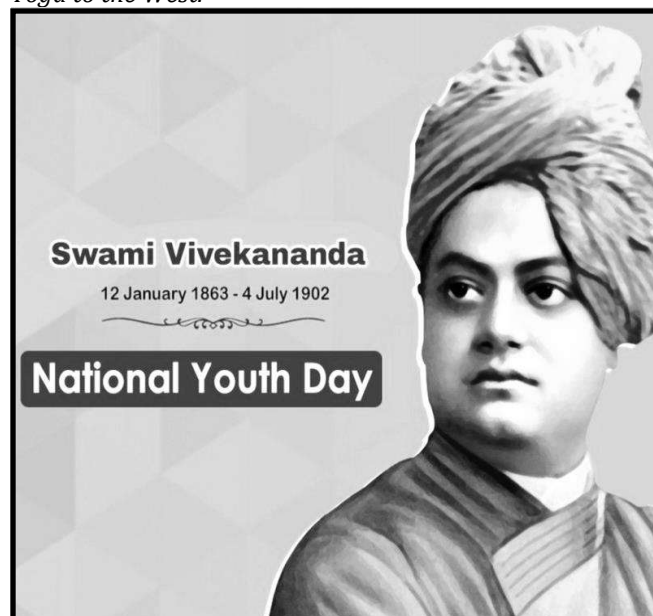
Human trafficking is a global crime that refers to trading in people and exploiting them for vested interests. It refers to an illicit act that is related to the use of deception, fraud, force, or coercion to procure sex or labour from persons. Every year, approximately 2,25,000 people worldwide become victims of human trafficking.

Remember!! *The World Day against Trafficking in Persons is observed on July 30.*

January 12: National Youth Day

Celebrated across the country to promote youth related activities to commemorate the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda. The theme for this year is "Viksit Yuva – Viksit Bharat" (Developed Youth – Developed India). This year's main function for the day was held in Hubballi- Dharwad, Karnataka, from Jan 12 to 16.

Swami ji, one of India's most revered spiritual leaders, was born in Kolkata on January 12, 1863, as Narendra Nath Datta. A prime disciple of 19th century Indian mystic Guru Ramakrishna Paramhansa, he effectively reintroduced the Indian philosophies of Vedanta and Yoga to the West.



January 14: Makar Sankranti



This day marks the end of winter solstice as the Sun moves from Dhanu Raashi (Sagittarius) to enter the Makar Raashi (Capricorn) on this day. Sankranti means transition. From this day onwards the Sun starts its northward movement. People worship the Sun as a deity on this day. It is also celebrated as the festival of harvest. *The festival has different names in different parts of the country. In North India, it is popular as Maghi and Sankranti and the festival of Lohri is celebrated a night before Makar Sankranti. In Assam, it is celebrated as Magh or Bhogali Bihu, in Tamil Nadu as Pongal, Pedda Panduga in Andhra Pradesh & Telangana, and as Poush Parbo in West Bengal. In Gujarat, it is popularly known as 'Uttarayan' and the main attraction is the International Kite Festival celebrated all over the state but particularly at Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad.*

January 14: The Armed Forces Veterans Day

This day is celebrated to pay tributes to our army veterans commemorating the valour and sacrifice shown by them in discharging their duty. The day also marks the retirement of the First Indian Commander in Chief (C-in-C) of the Indian Army- Field Marshal KM Cariappa, on this day in 1953. The First Armed Forces Veterans Day was celebrated on January 14, 2016.

January 15: Army Day

Celebrated every year to mark the taking over of command of the Indian Army by then Lt Gen K M Cariappa, the first Indian Commander-in-Chief, on this day in 1949, from the last British Commander-in-Chief, General Sir Francis Butcher. Gen Cariappa was later elevated to the rank of Field Marshal of the Indian Army in Jan 1986, though he retired in 1953. The Indian Army was founded by the British on April 1, 1895.

January 16: National Startup Day

This day is celebrated to appreciate the spirit of entrepreneurship and promote achievements of Indian startups. The day aims to bring together young celebrated entrepreneurs to brainstorm, innovate and excel in contributing to the growth of the Indian economy. This initiative was started in the year 2022 by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi to encourage entrepreneurship and promote businesses.

January 23: Parakram Diwas (Valour Day)

This day is celebrated every year to pay tribute to the great freedom fighter Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on his birth anniversary. It was on this day in 1897, that Neta Ji was born in Cuttack, Odisha. The day aims to inspire people of the country, especially the youth, to act with fortitude in the face of adversity as Netaji did, and to infuse in them a spirit of patriotic fervour.

January 24: National Girl Child Day

The day is celebrated every year to promote awareness on a range of issues related to girls, such as education, health, and nutrition. It was initiated in 2008 by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. The day aims to increase awareness among the people and ensure that every girl gets equal importance as their counterparts. On this day in 1966, Indira Gandhi became the first woman Prime Minister of India.

Remember! International Day of Girl Child is observed on October 11.

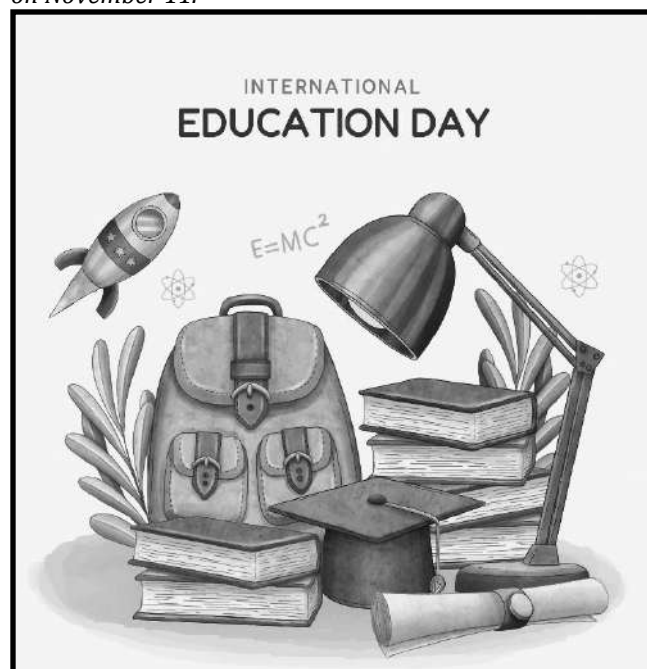
January 24: International Day of Education

The day is celebrated across the world with support from UNESCO to focus on improving the universal quality of education and its role in promoting peace and development. It aims to promote UNO's sustainable development goal no. 4 of 'Quality Education'.

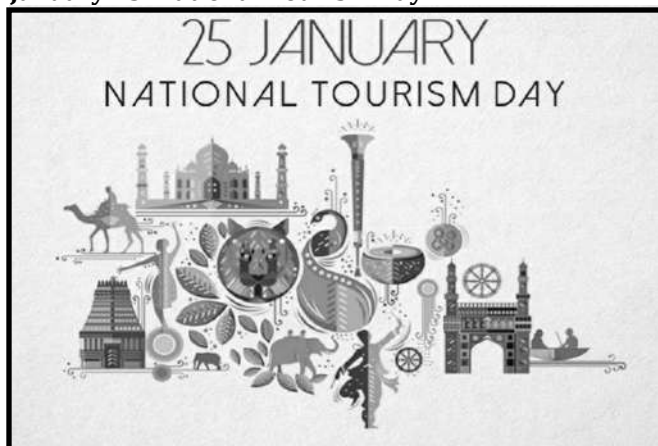
UNESCO has dedicated this year's Day to all the girls and women in Afghanistan, who have been denied their right to learn, study and teach. It is calling for the immediate lifting of the ban restricting their access to education.

The theme for this year is "To invest in people, prioritise education". It aims for maintaining strong political mobilisation around education to translate commitments and global initiatives into action.

Remember! In India, National Education Day is celebrated on November 11.



January 25: National Tourism Day



The day aims to spread awareness of the importance of travelling and protecting nature. The day, established by the Government of India, aims to promote the tourism industry and recognize its contribution to the growth and sustainability of tourist destinations and local communities. India provides a diverse portfolio of tourism, including eco-tourism, cruises, business, sports, educational, rural, and medical travel.

Remember!! World Tourism Day is celebrated on 27 September.

January 25: National Voters Day

Celebrated every year to spread awareness about the necessity of voting and to encourage the young generation towards voting rights because each vote decides the fate of the new government and democracy. The day marks the foundation day of the Election Commission of India, on this day in 1950. It was first celebrated on Jan 25, 2011.

The theme for this year's NVD, 'Nothing Like Voting, I Vote for Sure' is dedicated to voters which conveys individual's feeling and aspiration towards participation in the electoral process through power of their vote. Sh Rajiv Kumar is the current Chief Election Commissioner of India.

January 26: The International Customs Day

The day is celebrated to highlight the role of customs officials and agencies and to focus on the working conditions and challenges that customs officers face in their jobs. The day was instituted by the World Customs Organisation (WCO) to commemorate its inaugural session held on this day in 1953 in Brussels.

The WCO is an independent inter-governmental organisation based in Brussels, Belgium. It has dedicated 2023 to Nurturing the next generation: promoting a culture of knowledge-sharing and professional pride in Customs.

Customs duty refers to the tax imposed on import of goods. The government uses this duty to raise its revenues, safeguard domestic industries, and regulate movement of goods. Custom duty in India is defined under the Customs Act, 1962, and is regulated by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC).

January (29): World Leprosy Day

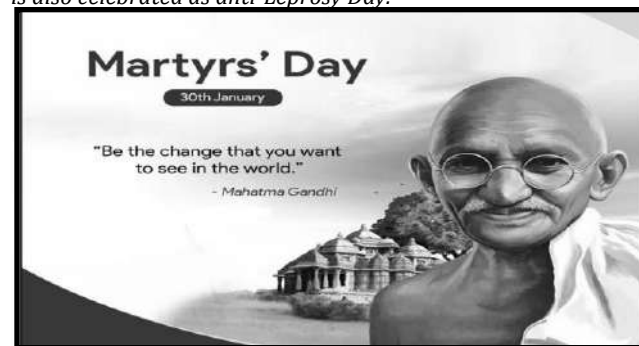
Observed on the last Sunday of January, the day focuses on the target of zero cases of leprosy-related disabilities in children. On an average, India has been reporting more than one lakh new leprosy cases annually since 2005. The focus this year is on the theme "Act Now. End Leprosy."

Leprosy is an infectious disease that affects the skin and nerves. Also known as Hansen's disease, after the name of Norwegian physician G A Hansen, who discovered in 1873 the leprosy-causing bacteria. It is caused by the slow multiplying bacteria Mycobacterium leprae and mainly affects the skin, peripheral nerves, mucosa of the upper respiratory tract and eyes.

January 30: Martyrs Day/Anti Leprosy Day

This day is observed to commemorate the martyrdom of Mahatma Gandhi who was assassinated by Nathuram Godse at Gandhi Smriti in the Birla House, New Delhi during evening prayers on January 30, 1948. He was 78 at that time.

Further, to honour Gandhi ji's selfless efforts and deep concern for the care of the people affected with Leprosy, in India this day is also celebrated as anti-Leprosy Day.



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Bullet News

(August – November 2022)

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NATIONAL NEWS

NOVEMBER

- Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar made his first foreign visit after assuming office by reaching Phnom Penh, Cambodia on Nov 11 to attend 19th ASEAN-India Summit and 17th East Asia Summit.
- India unveiled the official website of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) on Nov 18 for the year 2022-23.
 - ✓ India will serve as the group's president from September 2022 until September 2023. The theme selected for the year is "For a SECURE SCO".
- India took over the Chair of the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence, GPAI from France on Nov 21.
- India joined the newly launched Mangrove Alliance for Climate on Nov 8 at the 27th session of Conference of Parties (COP27) in Sharm-El-Sheikh, Egypt.
 - ✓ It is an initiative led by the UAE and Indonesia to spread awareness on the role of mangroves in curbing global warming.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled on Nov 8 logo, theme and website for India's presidency of the G20. The G20 logo, created with the four colours of India's national flag, displays the earth sitting atop a lotus.
 - ✓ The 7 petals in the logo signify the seven seas and the coming together of 7 continents in G20.
 - ✓ Theme of G20 India 2023 – 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' (One Earth, One Family), is drawn from Maha Upanishad. In the logo, it has been expanded as "One Earth. One Family. One Future".
 - ✓ India will assume the presidency of the grouping of the world's 20 largest economies on Dec. 1.
- Supreme Court upheld the validity of the 103rd Amendment of the Constitution which provides 10% reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) in admissions (in both, public and private institutions) and government jobs.
 - ✓ The EWS reservation is for that section of the 'General' classes (not covered under OBC, SC or ST) whose annual family income is below Rs. 8 lakhs.
- The 53rd International Film Festival of India (IFFI) began in Panaji, Goa on Nov 20 with the screening of Austrian director Dieter Berner's film Alma and Oskar.
- France was the 'Country of Focus' for the festival.
 - ✓ Spanish film director Carlos Saura was honoured with the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement award. Veteran actor Chiranjeevi was selected as Indian Film Personality of the Year 2022.
- 15th Urban Mobility India Conference & Expo was held in Kochi, Kerala from Nov 4 to 6.
- The Global Employability University Ranking and Survey report released by the Times Higher Education (THE), London placed Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA at the top.
 - ✓ Among Indian institutions, the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi was the highest-ranked Indian university, at the 28th spot.
- The inaugural QS World University Rankings: Sustainability 2023 released in London ranked University of California at the top.
 - ✓ IIT-Bombay was ranked as the best educational institution in India in the 281-300 rank range.
- The Ministry of Home Affairs completed the Mother Tongue Survey of India (MTSI) with field videography of the country's 576 languages.
 - ✓ As per analysis of 2011 linguistic census data, more than 19,500 languages or dialects are spoken in India as mother tongues.
 - ✓ Hindi is the most widely spoken mother tongue, with 52.8 crore people (43.6% of population), declaring it as their mother tongue; next is Bengali, 8%.

- 18th Climate Change Performance Index 2023 released by Germanwatch, New Climate Institute and CAN International, placed India at 8th rank, due to its low emissions and the increasing use of renewable energy.
- The Network Readiness Index 2022 report released recently by the Portland Institute of USA, placed USA at the top spot. India improved its position by six slots to secure 61st rank.

OCTOBER

- UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres visited India from Oct 18 to 20. He began his tour by paying tributes to the victims of the 26/11 terror attacks at the hotel Taj Mahal Palace in Mumbai.
 - ✓ *He visited the Sun Temple in the country's first solar-powered village, Modhera (Gujarat) and other development projects in the area.*
- International eco-label "Blue Flag", was granted to two new beaches – Minicoy Thundi Beach and Kadmat Beach- both in Lakshadweep. This takes the number of beaches certified under the Blue Flag certification to 12.
- The Defence Ministry organised the 12th edition of the prestigious Biennial Defence Exhibition – DefExpo 2022 – in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, from October 18 to 22. The theme of 12th DefExpo is 'Path to Pride'.
- The 90th Interpol General Assembly was held at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi, from Oct 18 to 21. The Assembly was attended by delegations from 195 member countries.
- INTERPOL: International Criminal Police Organisation, Lyon, France.
- The World Bank made two appointments under the Indus Waters Treaty as requested by India and Pakistan in relation to dispute related to Kishenganga and Ratle hydroelectric power plants.
 - ✓ *Michel Lino as Neutral Expert and Sean Murphy as Chairman of the Court of Arbitration under the Indus Waters Treaty.*
 - ✓ *The Indus Waters Treaty was signed in 1960 after nine years of negotiations between India and Pakistan with the help of the World Bank, which is also a signatory.*
- India and France have been re-elected as President and Co-President of the International Solar Alliance (ISA).
 - ✓ *ISA is a group of 110 countries, located between tropics, for collectively harnessing solar energy. It is based in Gurugram, Haryana, headed by its Director General, Dr Ajay Mathur.*
- A special commemorative postage stamp was released on October 13 on the occasion of Golden Jubilee of introduction of PIN Code, in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

- The Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2023 released on Oct 12 have placed the University of Oxford at first rank, for the 7th time in a row. IISc, Bengaluru retained its spot as the highest-ranking Indian university.
- The IMF termed India's Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme as a 'logistical marvel' considering the sheer size of the country. DBT transfers govt funds directly in to beneficiary's account.
- Phase-I of the Mahakaal Lok Project in the premises of the Mahakaleshwar temple in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh was opened for public on Oct 11.
 - ✓ *108 pillars depicting Anand Tandav Swaroop of Lord Shiva have been erected alongside 900-meter-long Mahakaal Path.*
- The 2nd UN World Geospatial Information Congress, organised by the United Nations and the Deptts. Of Science and Technology and Space, was held in Hyderabad from Oct 10 to 14.
 - ✓ *The theme of the Congress was 'Geo-Enabling the Global Village: No one should be left behind'. The Congress was attended by over 2000 delegates from over 130 countries.*
- On Sep 25, Indian Oil Corp. became the first oil company in India to launch indigenously-developed aviation fuel AVGAS 100 LL.
 - ✓ *It is a special aviation fuel meant for piston engine aircrafts and unmanned aerial vehicles. Currently, India is importing it from European countries.*
- Supreme Court directed Agra Development Authority to remove all business activities within 500 meters from the boundary/peripheral wall of the Taj Mahal as the mausoleum is also a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- The Supreme Court began live streaming of its proceedings for the public from Sep 27. The hearings before three Constitution benches of the Apex Court can be watched on its platform, webcast.gov.in/45candia/.
- The "Freedom on the Net" report by the US based NGO Freedom House ranked Iceland at the top. India's internet freedom score improved by two points to 51 following efforts to bridge the digital divide.
- India ranked 123rd out of 161 countries for reducing inequality but continues to be among the lowest performers in health spending, according to the latest Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index (CRII).
- The World Intellectual Property Organisation released the Global Innovation Index to rank 132 countries on the basis of their performance in promoting and enriching innovation.
 - ✓ *India secured 40th rank in the Index, while Switzerland secured the top rank for the 12th successive year.*

- India was ranked 41st out of 44 countries in the Mercer CFA Global Pension Index. The index was topped by Iceland, followed by Netherlands and Denmark.
- India ranked 107th out of 121 countries in the Global Hunger Index 2022. With a score of 29.1, the level of hunger in India has been labelled as “serious”.
 - ✓ *Its child wasting rate at 19.3%, is the highest in the world. 17 countries shared collective top-rankings with minimal difference in their severity scoring.*

SEPTEMBER

- The Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina arrived in New Delhi on September 5, on a four-day official visit. On the last day, she visited Ajmer to offer prayers at Khwaja Gharib Nawaz Dargah Sharif.
 - ✓ *2 projects, Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant at Rampal, and 5.13 km Rupsha rail bridge over the river Rupsha in Khulna, both in Bangladesh were also inaugurated.*
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the 22nd SCO Summit on 15-16 Sep at Samarkand in Uzbekistan.
- India took over the rotational Presidency of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation -SCO, for the first time, from September 2022 to September 2023.
- Creating a historical milestone in the wildlife scenario of India, eight Cheetahs brought from Namibia were introduced in the Kuno National Park of Madhya Pradesh on Sep 17.
- The Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister (EAC-PM) on August 30 came out with a roadmap titled “Competitiveness Roadmap for India@100”.
 - ✓ *It is based on the competitiveness framework developed by Professor Michael E. Porter from Harvard Business School, USA.*
- The “India Hypertension Control Initiative got the “2022 UN Interagency Task Force and WHO Special Programme on Primary Health Care Award” at the UN General Assembly on Sep 21.
- The Gujarati film Chhello Show has been announced as India’s official entry to the Oscars 2023. The film is titled as “Last Film Show” in English.
- Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) approved India’s first intranasal Covid vaccine -iNCOVACC for restricted use in emergency situations among people aged above 18 years.
 - ✓ *Manufactured by Bharat Biotech, Hyderabad, the company behind Covaxin, the new vaccine has been approved for primary immunisation.*

AUGUST

- NDA candidate Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar was elected as the 14th Vice-President of India on August 6 as he defeated joint opposition candidate Ms. Margaret Alva.

- ✓ *71-year-old Dhankhar, a former Governor of West Bengal (2019-22), was administered oath of office on Aug 11 by the President, Ms. Draupadi Murmu.*
- President of Maldives Ibrahim Mohamed Solih arrived in New Delhi on August 1 on a four-day official visit.
 - ✓ *A Line of Credit of \$100 million was granted to Maldives, for the completion of development projects in a time-bound manner.*
- The External Affairs Ministry has announced that the 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas 2023 will be held at Indore, Madhya Pradesh in January next year.
- Everest, a sister agency of the advertising giant Rediffusion, launched India’s first own font “Bharat” on Independence Day.
 - ✓ *India is the only country to get its own national font after Sweden which has a font of its own.*
- The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change added 11 more wetlands to the list of Ramsar sites on August 13, to make a total 75 Ramsar sites
 - ✓ *Tamil Nadu now has the maximum number of Ramsar sites at 14, followed by UP at 10.*
- The Union Cabinet approved India’s updated Nationally Determined Contribution, NDC to be communicated to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
 - ✓ *The update aims at achieving India’s long-term goal of reaching net zero emissions by 2070.*
- The Parliament passed the Indian Antarctic Bill, 2022 on August 01 to bring Indian research stations in the Antarctic region under domestic laws of the country.
 - ✓ *India has two active research stations in the Antarctic region – Bharti and Maitri.*
- The auction for the 5G spectrum of radio waves ended on July 29 after 4 days of bidding by 4 players – Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel, Vodafone Idea and Adani Data Networks.
 - ✓ *The govt received bids worth Rs 1,49,855 crore. Reliance Jio acquired the largest share of spectrum by bidding for ₹88,078 crore.*
- In a recent report published by the State of Global Air on air quality and health in cities, New Delhi and Kolkata ranked first and second most polluted cities, in the world.

NEWS FROM STATES

NOVEMBER

- Kerala became the first state in India to launch a uniform gold price in the state, based on the bank rate, offering consumers an opportunity to purchase gold at a reasonable and transparent price.
- Government approved the establishment of India’s first-ever Integrated Aqua Park in Arunachal Pradesh at Tarin (Ziro) in the lower Subansiri District.

- District Shahjahanpur in Uttar Pradesh topped in the country in giving the maximum number of tap connections in a month under the Jal Jeevan Mission.
 - ✓ *It was ranked on top in the aspirant category for ensuring 28,419 tap connections in October.*
- EPFO placed Delhi at the top in terms of coverage of 61.5% of their working population under the social security ambit of the organisation. The EPFO coverage was the lowest in Tripura.
- World's tallest (369 ft) Lord Shiva statue was unveiled in Nathdwara town of Rajasthan's Rajsamand district on October 29. The statue named 'Viswas Swaroopam' has been constructed by Tat Padam Sansthan.
- India's (also world's) largest Wind Turbine Generator was commissioned in Mundra, Gujarat by the Adani New Ind. Ltd. Standing 200 mt tall, its blades are 78 mt long. It can generate 5.2 MW power for 4,000 homes.
- Govt of Kerala announced on Nov 14 their proposal to build first of its kind Kochi Green Hydrogen Hub with a capital expenditure of \$ 575 million, to build a 60-tonnes per day (TPD) green hydrogen plant.
- Tamil Nadu has declared an area of 686 sq km in the reserve forests of Krishnagiri and Dharmapuri as the Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary.
- The Union Ministry of Forests, Environment and Climate Change gave its nod on Oct 21 to the establishment of the Terai Elephant Reserve in Uttar Pradesh.
- Govt approved creation of 4th tiger reserve in UP by the name "Ranipur Tiger Reserve". The tiger reserve, 53rd in the country, is spread across over 530 sq km.

OCTOBER

- Andhra Pradesh, Assam and Gujarat are among the 15 states and UTs categorised as 'Achievers' in the logistics index chart 2022, according to the 4th LEADS (Logistics Ease Across Different States) 2022 report released on October 13 by the Commerce and Industry Ministry.
- The Union Tourism Ministry released a report India Tourism Statistics-2022 on the occasion of World Tourism Day, Sep 27.
 - ✓ *Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu registered the largest number of foreign tourist visits with 1.26 million and 1.23 million respectively in 2021.*
 - ✓ *India's ranking in the global Travel and Tourism Development Index (TTDI) is 54th in 2021.*
- As per the 'Swachh Survekshan Awards 2022' declared by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs on October 2, Indore was adjudged India's cleanest city for the sixth time in a row.
- UT of Andaman Nicobar Islands became first among all the states/UTs of India to achieve a cent percent coverage of precautionary dose of Corona vaccine.

- Madhya Pradesh has become the first state in the country to start the MBBS course in Hindi. The first set of medical books in Hindi for medical biochemistry, anatomy and medical physiology were released on 16th October, in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- The Tamil Nadu government notified the country's first Slender Loris sanctuary in Kadavur in the Karur and Dindigul districts of the State. Slender Loris are tiny nocturnal mammals who generally stay on trees.
- Jakson Green, the Noida based solar energy company, signed a MoU for Rs. 22,400 crore with Rajasthan govt. to set up a 3,65,000 tonnes per annum green hydrogen and green ammonia plant in the state's Kota district.
- Madhya Pradesh approved formation of a new tiger reserve, to be called Durgavati Tiger Reserve, spread across Narsinghpur, Damoh and Sagar districts.
- The govt extended the application of the disturbed area provisions under the AFSPA in 12 districts of Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh for another six months, beginning October 01.

SEPTEMBER

- With the construction of 8,462 Amrit Sarovars (village ponds), Uttar Pradesh has topped the states in the implementation of Prime Minister's ambitious Mission Amrit Sarovar.
- The Pacific Area Travel Writers Association conferred West Bengal with the International Travel Award 2023 for 'Best Destination for Culture'.
- Tamil Nadu notified the country's first 'Dugong Conservation Reserve' on Sep 21. The reserve has been notified in Palk Bay.
 - ✓ *Dugongs are the largest herbivorous marine mammals which primarily thrive on seagrass beds.*
- A joint venture of Vedanta and Taiwanese chip giant Foxconn signed an MoU with the Gujarat government on Sep 13 to set up India's largest semiconductor and display manufacturing unit in the state.
 - ✓ *Vedanta-Foxconn would invest Rs 1,54,000 crore to set up the facility which would create over one lakh job opportunities.*
- Country's first modified bio-village, Daspara, has been developed in Tripura. The village, solely dependent on agriculture and fishery, converted to a nature-based lifestyle and minimised the use of chemical fertilisers.
 - ✓ *The bio-village project aims for application of climate-friendly technologies like solar-powered agricultural equipment, energy-saving electrical devices, biogas and biofertilizers.*

- India's first 'Dark Sky Reserve' or Night Sky Sanctuary is being set up in the cold desert regions of Ladakh in Henley in the Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary.
 - ✓ *A Dark Sky Reserve, is a place which is developed specially with a distinguished nocturnal environment and starry nights.*
- Warangal from Telangana and two cities from Kerala, Thrissur and Nilambur, have joined the UNESCO's Global Network of Learning Cities.
 - ✓ *They have been selected in recognition of their outstanding efforts to make lifelong learning a reality for all at the local level.*

AUGUST

- Jharkhand became the first state in the country to deploy a production-grade blockchain-based seed distribution programme developed by the global blockchain technology company, SettleMint.
- The NITI Aayog has declared district Haridwar in Uttarakhand as India's Best Aspirational District under the Aspirational Districts Programme.
- Jammu and Kashmir has become the first amongst States/Uts to establish an Atal Tinkering Lab (ATL) in partnership with the NITI Aayog.
- Goa has become the first 'Har Ghar Jal' certified State and Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu the first such UT in the country.
- Tribal region Mandla in MP has become the country's first fully "functionally literate" district.
 - ✓ *All adults in the Mandla can now do basic tasks like write their names, count and read and write in Hindi.*
- The Brihanmumbai Electric Supply and Transport (BEST) in Mumbai has become the first transport corporation in India to operate India's first electric double decker AC bus.
- Asia's largest Compressed Biogas Plant began its commercial operations on August 13 at village Bhuttal Kalan in Sangrur, Punjab. The plant uses paddy straw and other farm wastes to convert them into usable biogas.
- The Assam and Mizoram signed a joint statement on August 9, in Aizawl, Mizoram to resolve the boundary dispute between the two states.
- Bihar's Mithila Makhana (fox nuts) was awarded Geographical Indication (GI) tag. It has been registered in the name of Mithilanchal Makhana Utpadak Sangh.

GOVT INITIATIVES

NOVEMBER

- Rural Development Ministry has formed a panel headed by former Advisor to PM, Amarjeet Sinha. to

restructure the flagship employment guarantee scheme MGNREGA.

- India's first National Centre of Excellence for Green Port & Shipping was launched by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping at New Delhi to foster carbon neutrality and circular economy in the shipping sector in India.
- UGC has asked universities to engage professionals and industry experts as "Professors of Practice" (PoP) to impart holistic and multidisciplinary education.
 - ✓ *'PoP' position provides an opportunity for the participation of experienced practitioners / professionals / industry experts etc. in the teaching-learning process.*
- The government has amended Aadhaar card rules, specifying that supporting documents need to be updated at least once by Aadhaar holders on completion 10 years from the enrolment date.
- India's first national repository for life science data, the Indian Biological Data Center (IBDC) was launched on Nov 10 at Faridabad, Haryana.
 - ✓ *It has a data storage capacity of about 4 petabytes and houses the 'Brahm' High-Performance Computing (HPC) facility.*
- Atal Innovation Mission of NITI Aayog launched the Women centric challenges on Nov 9 under the 2nd edition of Atal New India Challenge (ANIC).
 - ✓ *ANIC aims to nurture technology-based innovations that solve issues of national importance through a grant-based mechanism of up to one crore rupees.*
- The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting notified its latest up linking and downloading rules on Nov 9.
 - ✓ *It has mandated private TV channels to run 30-minute daily programmes of national importance and social relevance.*
- Govt constituted a committee headed by Dr. K. Radhakrishnan, Chairperson, Board of Governors, IIT Kanpur for strengthening the assessment and accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions.
- The Income Tax Deptt. launched the 'HARIT Aaykar' initiative on the occasion of National Unity Day, Oct 31, to increase greenery and develop micro forests.
- *HARIT stands for "Hariyali Achievement Resolution"*

OCTOBER

- PM Kisan Samruddhi Kendra: More than 600 Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samruddhi Kendra across India were inaugurated virtually on Oct 17 by Prime Minister Modi.
 - ✓ *Farmers can buy fertilisers, pesticides, seed and farm implements from here and can also avail testing facilities for soil, seeds and fertilisers.*

SEPTEMBER

- India's first indigenous Aluminium Rail Freight Rake was launched at Bhubaneswar Railway Station in Odisha. It is also for the first-time that a rake has been constructed with no welding on the superstructure.
- The Union Cabinet approved a Rs 10,000 crore proposal for the redevelopment of the New Delhi, Ahmedabad and Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus railway stations.
- The Union Health Ministry launched Tele Mental Health Assistance and Networking Across States (Tele-MANAS) -- a 24x7 service, on the occasion of World Mental Health Day, Oct 10.
- Indian Railways plans to gradually reduce its carbon footprint to become Net Zero Carbon Emitter by 2030. This reduction will be achieved primarily by shifting to renewable energy.
- The Election Commission of India launched a yearlong Voter Awareness Program titled 'Matdata Junction' in collaboration with All India Radio.
- In an effort to track down cyber criminals who indulge in financial crimes and fraud, the CBI launched country wide "Operation Chakra" on Oct 04.
- The "Scheme for Mentoring Young Authors - YUVA 2.0" was launched on October 2, to promote reading, writing, and book culture in the country.
 - ✓ *YUVA 2.0 (Young, Upcoming and Versatile Authors) aims to encourage the youth to understand and appreciate India's rich legacy.*
- Marking the beginning of a new era in the field of telecommunications, the 5G telephony services were launched in New Delhi on Oct 01.
 - ✓ *The 5G refers to the 5th Generation of range of radio frequencies in the sub-6 GHz range and the millimetre wave frequency range of 24.25 GHz and above.*
 - ✓ *Connected cars, smart education platforms, advanced gaming and advanced entertainment channels, they all rely on 5G networks.*
- The CBI launched 'Operation Garuda' to dismantle drug networks with international linkages; in coordination with INTERPOL and Narcotics Control Bureau with special focus on the Indian Ocean Region.
- Foundation stone for the first compressed natural gas (CNG) terminal in the world was laid in Gujarat's Bhavnagar on Sep 29, 2022.
- The Rural Development Ministry launched the 'Jaldoot' App to capture the water level of selected wells in a village across the country.
 - ✓ *The App will enable Gram Rojgar Sahayak to measure the water level of a well twice a year – pre-monsoon and post-monsoon.*

- The Centre formed a committee on Sep 21 headed by Dr. VK Paul, member (health), NITI Aayog to review marketing practices of pharmaceutical companies.
 - ✓ *It will examine how all the codes, rules, and regulations related to malpractices in pharma industry can be curtailed.*
- The Skill Certification Assessment for Leather Employees (SCALE) app launched on Sep 20 at the Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI), Chennai.
 - ✓ *The app aims to provide a one-stop solution for the skilling, learning, assessment, and employment needs of the leather industry.*
- A first-of-its-kind National Maritime Heritage Complex is being set up at the historic Indus Valley civilisation region of Lothal in Gujarat.
- NITI Aayog, in collaboration with World Resources Institute, India, launched on Sep 08 the country's first national electric freight platform, e-FAST India (Electric Freight Accelerator for Sustainable Transport – India).
- A committee headed by Dr. Kirit S Parikh set up to review the formula that dictates the pricing of natural gas produced by companies like ONGC and Reliance.
- The three km stretch of the Central Vista, Rajpath, in New Delhi, from the Rashtrapati Bhavan to India Gate, was renamed as 'Kartavya Path' on Sep 08.
 - ✓ *Kartavya Path will exhibit beautified landscapes, refurbished canals, new public amenity blocks, improved signages and vending kiosks, to make it more tourist friendly.*

AUGUST

- An online marketplace feature – 'Aqua Bazar' was launched in mobile app "Matsya Setu" on Aug 18 to connect various stakeholders in the aquaculture industry.
 - ✓ *It will assist in locating inputs such as fish seed, feed, medicines, and services required for fisheries.*
- The Narcotics Control Bureau developed portal NIDAAN (National Integrated Database on Arrested Narco-offenders) as a one-stop solution for all narcotics offenders' related data.
- Govt launched "Paalan 1000 – Journey of First 1000 Days for a Child" campaign and "Paalan 1000" parenting app on Aug 16 to promote early childhood development.
- The Union Cabinet approved additional interest subvention of 1.5 per cent on Short Term Agriculture Loans upto Rs. 3 lakh for 2022-23 to 2024-25.
- The project "SMILE: Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise" was launched on August 12 in New Delhi.

- ✓ *It aims to make urban areas begging-free and make a strategy for comprehensive rehabilitation of the persons engaged in the act of begging.*
- The Union Cabinet approved the continuation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U) up to December 31, 2024. The continuation of the scheme will help in completion of already sanctioned 122.69 lakh houses.
- Government launched a 'Common Registration Facility' for ration cards on a trial basis for 11 states/Uts.
 - ✓ *This Web-based facility will allow them to collect data on people who want to register for NFSA inclusion, including migrants living in other states.*
- "State University Research Excellence" (SURE) scheme launched on Aug 3 to augment the research capabilities in state and private universities and colleges to create a robust Research and Development ecosystem.
 - ✓ *Since a large number of the state universities are in rural areas, grassroot level research by them would benefit the local industry and local farmers and focus on finding innovative solutions for local problems.*
- The 11th Agricultural Census (2021-22) was launched on July 28. It is conducted every 5 years to collect data such as the number and area of land holdings, class-wise distribution, land use, tenancy and cropping pattern, etc.
 - ✓ *This is the first time that data collection for agricultural census will be conducted on smartphones and tablets, so that final data is available in time.*

ECONOMY

NOVEMBER

- As per the 3rd advance estimates of the production of horticultural crops for the year 2021-22, total production of fruits and vegetables is estimated to be 342.33 million tonnes (MT) in the year 2021-22.
 - ✓ *Production of fruits is estimated to be 107.24 MT while that of vegetables is estimated to be 204.84 MT and 30.25 MT are other green products.*
- Russia pushed China to second place to become the top supplier of fertilisers to India for the first time in the first six months of this fiscal year, starting April 1, 2022.
- Govt approved a framework for issuance of sovereign green bonds to attract investment in environmentally sustainable and climate-suitable projects.
 - ✓ *The selected projects may include renewable energy, clean transportation, water/waste management, pollution prevention and control, among others.*

OCTOBER

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, CCEA on October 18 approved an increase in Rabi Crops MSP (Minimum Support Price) 2022-23 for Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2023-24.

Crops	MSP 2022-23	MSP 2023-24	Increase in MSP
Wheat	2015	2125	110
Barley	1635	1735	100
Gram	5230	5335	105
Masur	5500	6000	500
Rapeseed/ Mustard	5050	5450	400
Safflower	5441	5650	209

- India emerged as the world's largest producer and second-largest exporter of sugar in the Sugar Season 2021-22, producing a record 3.59 crore metric ton of sugar, pushing Brazil to second place.
- The Netherlands emerged as India's third-largest export destination, pushing China and Bangladesh down. USA and UAE continue to be the largest and second-largest export destinations, respectively, for India.
- SEBI granted an in-principle nod to the stock exchange BSE (Bombay Stock Exchange) to start "social stock exchange" as a separate segment.
 - ✓ *Social stock exchange will enable the listing of non-profit organisations and for-profit social enterprises that are engaged in 15 broad eligible social activities approved by the SEBI.*
- According to a TRAI report released on Oct 18, Reliance Jio toppled state-run BSNL in August to become the largest fixed-line service provider in the country.

SEPTEMBER

- The Ministry of Finance granted 'Maharatna' status to the public sector power financier Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd. (REC), New Delhi, on Sep 22.
- The govt granted 'in-principle' approval to the three States viz, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh for setting up of Bulk Drug Parks under the Scheme for "Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks".
- The Ministry of Corporate Affairs revised the threshold limit for paid up capital and turnover of small companies on Sep 15.
 - ✓ *As per the revised definition, a small company will be one whose paid up capital does not exceed Rs 4 crore (earlier 2 cr) and the turnover does not exceed Rs. 40 crore (earlier 20cr).*
- The Adani group of 9 companies overtook the Tata group's 23 companies to become India's most valuable conglomerate in terms of market capitalisation as on close of business on BSE on Sep 16.

- ✓ *The market value of Adani Group stood at Rs 22.27 trillion, higher than Tata Group's Rs 20.77 trillion.*

- India's first Lithium cell manufacturing facility was inaugurated on Sep 16 at Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.
 - ✓ *These cells are used in power banks and in other consumer electronic products such as mobile phones and other wearable devices.*
- According to the Kantar BrandZ Top 75 Most Valuable Indian Brands 2022 report released on Sep 14, TCS was ranked as the most valuable Indian brand in 2022.

AUGUST

- As per the 4th advance estimates of production of major agricultural crops for the year 2021-22, the production is estimated at over 315 million tonnes (MT).
- The Government has ordered the implementation of the 'One Nation, One Fertiliser' scheme. The new scheme aims to bring uniformity in naming of fertiliser brands in the country under the single brand name 'Bharat'.
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the highest ever Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane at Rs. 305 per quintal for sugar season 2022-23 (October - September).
- The Railways tested its heaviest and longest freight train, Super Vasuki, on August 15. The train combined five trains to form a 3.5-km-long freight train with 295 loaded wagons carrying over 27,000 tonnes of coal.
 - ✓ *It ran from Korba in Chhattisgarh to Rajnandgaon in Nagpur. The train run by the South East Central Railway covered a distance of 267 km.*
- India's first international bullion exchange, the 'India International Bullion Exchange' (IIBX), was inaugurated on July 29 at the GIFT City near Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
 - ✓ *It will facilitate trading in physical gold and silver and is only the third such exchange in the world.*
 - ✓ *The exchange will be open only for jewellers with a net worth of Rs 25 crore and above. In the initial stage, gold 1 kg with 995 purity and gold 100 grams with 999 purity will be traded.*
- The National Stock Exchange's (NSE) flagship index, the Nifty futures contracts on Singapore Exchange (SGX) was launched on July 29 for trading in GIFT City.
- Biscuit brand Parle remained the most chosen brand among FMCGs in India in 2021, as per the rankings released by Kantar India on July 28 in its annual Brand Footprint report.

BANKING & FINANCE

NOVEMBER

- RBI approved the continuation of Interest Subvention Scheme for short term crop loans and short-term farm loans up to Rs. three lakh, for the financial years 2022-23 and 2023-24.
- Govt has decided to extend tenure of the MD or ED of a public sector bank to 10 years, from the earlier 5 years, subject to superannuation age of 60 years.
- The RBI launched the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) or Digital Rupee on Nov 01 in the wholesale segment on pilot basis.
 - ✓ *Digital Rupee is a digital form of currency notes issued by a central bank. It is an electronic form of money that can be used in contactless transactions.*
- IDFC First Bank launched India's first sticker-based Debit Card- FIRSTAP on Nov 24, in association with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
 - ✓ *The card will facilitate transactions by simply tapping the sticker on a Near Field Communication (NFC) enabled point-of-sale terminal.*
- Airtel Payments Bank became the first payment bank to roll out Face Authentication-based savings bank account opening for customers.
- IRDAI announced the launch of Bima Sugam—an online marketplace that will house all companies selling life and non-life insurance on a single platform.

OCTOBER

- Prime Minister Modi dedicated 75 Digital Banking Units (DBUs) in 75 districts to the nation on Oct 16 through video conferencing.
 - ✓ *DBUs will enable customers to have cost effective, convenient digital access to banking products and services 24x7, in physical mode.*
- RBI launched a web-based end-to-end workflow application, 'DAKSH', on Oct 6 to make the supervisory processes more effective and efficient in Supervised Entities (SEs) like Banks, NBFCs, etc.
- RBI asked all Credit Information Companies (CICs) to designate an internal ombudsman (IO) by April 1, 2023. The IO shall be either a retired or a serving officer, not below the rank of Deputy General Manager.
- The Central government has transferred the Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT) jurisdictions of all applications involving debt amounts of ₹100 crores and above to the DRTs at Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai.
 - ✓ *DRTs are the special tribunals set up for speedy trial of recovery cases of Rs. 20 lakh or more by banks/Fls.*

- Karnataka Bank won National Digital Transformation Award at the “DX 2022 Awards” for best practices in digital transformation under the BFSI segment.

SEPTEMBER

- Kolkata based public sector lender UCO Bank became the first lender to get RBI’s approval for rupee-based trade settlements.
 - ✓ *The UCO Bank will open a special Vostro account with Gazprom Bank of Russia for trade settlement in Indian rupees.*
- HDFC Bank became the first bank in India to issue an Electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG) in partnership with National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL).

AUGUST

- Based on the recommendations of the Working Group on ‘digital lending including lending through online platforms and mobile apps’, RBI released on August 10 detailed guidelines for the digital lending entities.
 - ✓ *The guidelines covered issues related to unbridled engagement of third parties, mis-selling, breach of data privacy, unfair business deals, charging of exorbitant interest, and unethical recovery practices.*
- The RBI’s digital payments index rose to 349.30 in March 2022, compared to 304.46 for September 2021, indicating digital payments are on the rise, led by UPI.

DEFENCE, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

NOVEMBER

Y 12705 Mormugao, the second ship of Project 15B Kolkata class stealth guided missile destroyers was delivered to the Indian Navy on Nov 24.

DRDO conducted a successful maiden flight-test of Phase-II Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) interceptor AD-1 missile on Nov 02 from APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha.

An Army Commanders’ Conference was held in New Delhi from November 7 to 11 to brainstorm on current and emerging security and administrative challenges and chart the future course for the Indian Army.

Indian Army launched a single window facility - Veerangana Sewa Kendra (VSK) for welfare and grievances redressal of Veer Naris.

- ✓ *The widow of a member of the armed forces, who has laid down his life for the country, whether in a war or in a military operation, is called ‘Veer Nari’.*

The foundation stone for the manufacturing project for a C-295MW military transport aircraft was laid at Vadodara in Gujarat on the 30 October.

- ✓ *A consortium of European major Airbus and Tata Group will jointly make this aircraft in India.*

Lance Naik Manju of Eastern Command from the Corps of Military Police created history by becoming the first woman soldier skydiver of the Indian Army.

“Samanvay 2022”: The Indian Air Force (IAF) conducted its annual joint humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) exercise from November 28 to 30 at Agra, Uttar Pradesh.

8th Garuda Shakti 22: The India-Indonesia armies exercise started on Nov 21 at Karawang, Indonesia.

13th Naseem Al Bahr-2022: held on Nov 20 between Indian and the Royal Oman navies near the coast of Oman.

Exercise Yudh Abhyas-22: Indian and US militaries conducted the battalion-level exercise at Auli in Uttarakhand, from 16th Nov to 2nd Dec.

3rd Pan-India Coastal Defence Exercise Sea Vigil-22 was conducted by the Indian Navy on Nov 15-16 in coordination with the Coast Guard and other ministries along the entire 7,516 kilometre coastline.

Exercise Malabar 2022: The four member countries of the “Quad” conducted the 26th edition of Malabar exercise off Yokosuka in Japan from Nov 8 to 15.

Operation Sea Sword 2: Indian Navy’s warship INS Trikanth participated in the Combined Maritime Forces led Focused Operation “Sea Sword 2” in the Northwest Arabian Sea from 06 to 14 November.

Exercise Indo-Pacific Endeavour (IPE): Australian naval ships with around 1,500 personnel, arrived in Visakhapatnam on Oct 30 to participate in the IPE.

SIMBEX-2022: The Indian Navy hosted the 29th edition of the Singapore-India maritime bilateral exercise from October 26 to 30 at Visakhapatnam.

Garuda VII: The Indian Air Force and the French Air and Space Force conducted a bilateral exercise ‘Garuda VII’ in Jodhpur, Rajasthan from Oct 26 to Nov 12.

IMT TRILAT: The first edition of the India-Mozambique-Tanzania Trilateral Exercise was held in the Indian Ocean, off the coast of Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania on 27 -29 October.

ISRO launched its PSLV-C54 on Nov 26 to successfully place the earth observation satellite (Oceansat) into a sun-synchronous orbit.

India's first-ever private launch of a suborbital rocket was made from Sriharikota on Nov 18. Developed by space-tech startup Skyroot Aerospace, the rocket Vikram-S soared to an altitude of over 80 km.

NASA launched the 100-metre tall 'Artemis', its most powerful rocket ever built, on Nov 16 for a journey to the Moon in a spectacular blaze of light and sound.

For the first time ever, researchers in the UK in a clinical experiment, have successfully transfused blood grown in a lab from adult stem cells, into two people.

OCTOBER

- India successfully test-fired indigenously-developed new generation medium-range ballistic missile Agni Prime from the Odisha coast.
- The Ministry of Defence launched a website named 'Maa Bharati Ke Sapoot' for collecting contributions to the Armed Forces Battle Casualties Welfare Fund.
- The govt approved the creation of a new "Weapon Systems" branch in the Indian Air Force.
- The indigenously-developed Light Combat Helicopter named 'Prachand' was inducted in the Indian Air Force.
 - ✓ *Developed by HAL, Bengaluru, it is the only attack helicopter in the world which can land and take-off at an altitude of 5,000 mt.*
- India successfully tested the attack capability of an advanced drone ALS 50. Developed by Tata Advanced Systems, it has been designed for Vertical Take Off and Landing (VTOL). It has a range of 1,000 km and can carry load upto 23 kg.
- The Indian Air Force retired the No. 51 'sword arms' MiG-21 fighter Squadron based in Srinagar on Sep 30.
- Tiger Triumph 2022: The second edition of the Indo-US Tri-Services Amphibious Humanitarian Assistance Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise, was conducted at Visakhapatnam from 18 to 20 October.
- The Eastern Naval Command conducted its Half Yearly Offshore Security Exercise, 'Prasthan' in the Offshore Development Area (ODA) off Kakinada coast (Andhra Pradesh), on October 12.
- The 7th IBSAMAR, a joint Multi-Nation Maritime Exercise between the Indian, Brazilian and South African Navies, was held near Port Elizabeth, off the southern tip of South Africa, from 10 to 12 October.
- The National Security Guard (NSG) hosted the multinational Joint Anti-Terror Exercise (JATE), "Manesar Anti-Terror 2022" from October 8 to 13 at NSG Manesar Garrison, near Gurugram, Haryana.
- Navies of India & South Korea participated in a maritime partnership exercise in the Bay of Bengal on Oct 01.
- ISRO launched 36 satellites in its first dedicated commercial mission of its heaviest rocket till date,

GSLV Mark 3 (renamed as LVM3-M2) successfully on Oct 23.

- A supercomputer named Param-Kamrupa, was inaugurated on October 13 in IIT Guwahati. It has a computing speed of 838 Teraflops. *(One Teraflop represents one trillion floating operations per second).*
- Asteria Aerospace Ltd, Bengaluru became the first drone manufacturer to receive India's first micro category drone type certification for its A200 drone from DGCA.
- The Indian Army and Defence Geoinformatics and Research Establishment (DGRE), a unit of DRDO, jointly installed India's first avalanche monitoring radar on Sep 20 at an altitude of 15,000 feet in North Sikkim.
- The Integrated Cryogenic Engine manufacturing facility of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) was formally inaugurated on Sep 27 in Bengaluru.
- ✓ *India is the 6th nation in the world to have the capability of manufacturing cryogenic rocket engines which are far more efficient and provides more thrust for every kilogram of propellant it burns.*
- After flying in space for 10 months, a NASA spacecraft successfully crashed into an asteroid on Sep 27 in a first-of-its-kind mission to test whether asteroids that might threaten Earth in the future could be nudged safely out of the way.
 - ✓ *The Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART), world's first planetary defence technology demonstration — targeted the asteroid moonlet Dimorphos, a small body just 160 mt in diameter.*

SEPTEMBER

- The Hindustan Shipyard at Visakhapatnam handed over to the Indian Navy two diving support vessels, Nistar and Nipun on Sep 22, built first time in India.
- The Indian Army activated satellite broadband-based internet service on the Siachen Glacier, the world's highest battlefield on September 18.
- BSF became the world's first battle force to have an all-female camel riding squad. It will be deployed along the India-Pakistan border in Rajasthan and Gujarat.
- Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd. Mumbai, launched 'Taragiri', the third Nilgiri class Stealth Frigate of Project 17A on Sep 11 for water testing.
- The Indian Army and the DRDO successfully tested, for the sixth time, an indigenous quick reaction surface-to-air missile (QRSAM) system, off the Odisha coast.
 - ✓ *It has a range of 30 km and can neutralise objects like missiles, drones, etc. up to an altitude of 10 km.*

- For the first time in the history of Indian armed forces, the Indian Navy received its first lot of fully locally manufactured complete gun ammunition.
 - ✓ *The 30 mm ammunition, to be used by the AK 630 guns fitted on its warships, has been manufactured by Economic Explosives Limited, Nagpur.*
- The Indian Navy received its new Naval Ensign (flag) on September 02 on the occasion of the commissioning of India's first indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant at Cochin Shipyard.
 - ✓ *The new ensign has the national flag on the upper canton. A blue octagonal shape seal with twin golden borders occupies the right half of the flag.*
 - ✓ *In this seal, an image of the national Lion emblem sits atop an anchor, with the navy's motto "Sam no Varunah" (सं नो वरुणः) inscribed at bottom.*
- The Indian Army is planning to induct indigenous light tank named 'Zorawar', designed specially to operate in High Altitude Area such as Ladakh and Arunachal.
 - ✓ *These tanks have been named after legendary Zorawar Singh, a military general who served under Raja Gulab Singh of Jammu in the early 19th century.*
- INS Ajay, the anti-submarine warfare corvette of the Indian Navy was decommissioned on Sep 19 after rendering 32 years of glorious service.
- Coast Guard ships from India and America conducted joint exercise Abhyas 01/22 off the coast of Chennai, from Sep 16 to 19.
- Parvat Prahar Exercise conducted by the Indian Army in eastern Ladakh in Sep, to test deployment of all new major inductions of the Army.
- INS Tarkash participated in a Joint Maritime Exercise with Nigerian Navy Patrol Ships in the Gulf of Guinea in south of Nigeria on Sep 12-13.
- Ex Kakadu: India took part in the Multinational Naval Exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Navy near Darwin in North Australia, beginning on Sep 13.
- Maritime Exercise 2022 (JIMEX 22): The sixth edition of joint operation of India and Japan navies began on Sep 11 near Visakhapatnam and ended on Sep 18.
- Ex Vostok 2022: The Indian Army contingent of the Gorkha Regiment troops took part in the Exercise Vostok – 2022 at the training grounds of the Eastern Military District of Russia, from 01 to 07 September.
- Ex Gagan Strike: Army's Kharga Corps and the Air Force conducted joint exercise in Punjab in areas bordering Ambala, Haryana, in 1st week of September.
- The 10th National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise SAREX-22 was carried out by the Indian

Coast Guard (ICG) on August 28, off the Chennai coast.

- US IT giant IBM, New York, announced on Sep 12 that IIT-Madras has become the first Indian institution to join the IBM Quantum Network to advance quantum computing skills development and research in India.
 - ✓ *Quantum computing refers to computer-based technologies centred around the principles of quantum theory. It can work in a much faster manner than even the fastest of the computers.*
- ISRO has successfully demonstrated a new technology with Inflatable Aerodynamic Decelerator (IAD). It is a game-changer with multiple applications for future missions including to Mars and Venus.
- The world's most powerful telescope, James Webb Telescope, captured the first image of an Exoplanet (a planet-like body outside our Solar System).
 - ✓ *The Exoplanet dubbed HIP 65426 b is 12 times larger than Jupiter, and is the largest planet in the Milky Way, located some 315 lightyears away.*

AUGUST

- In a milestone event, the Cochin Shipyard handed over India's first indigenously built aircraft carrier Vikrant, to the Indian Navy on July 28.
 - ✓ *It has been designed by the Navy's in-house Directorate of Naval Design. It was formally commissioned on September 02.*
- DRDO and the Indian Navy successfully flight tested indigenously developed Vertical Launch Short Range Surface to Air Missile (VL-SRSAM) on August 23 at the ITR, Chandipur, off the Odisha coast. Of Odisha.
- India's first Composite Indoor Shooting Range was inaugurated on August 18 at INS Karna at Visakhapatnam.
 - ✓ *It is the 1st and the only defence force in the country to develop and operationalize an indoor shooting range.*
- The Indian Navy received the first lot of two MH-60 R (Romeo) most advanced multirole helicopters from the United States at Cochin International Airport on July 28.
 - ✓ *Built by Lockheed Martin Corp. USA, it is an all-weather helicopter designed to support multiple missions with state-of-the-art avionics and sensors.*
- Tata Advanced Systems delivered the first lot of the indigenously developed Quick Reaction Fighting Vehicles (QRFVs) to the Indian Army.
 - ✓ *They will provide "protected mobility" to soldiers in various terrain, when exposed to chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear threats.*
- Indian Navy's women officers created history after they completed the first-ever all-women independent maritime reconnaissance and surveillance mission in the North Arabian Sea onboard a Dornier 228 aircraft.

- The Indian Army tested the operational readiness of its satellite-based systems across the country from July 25 to July 29 during the exercise codenamed Skylight.
- Exercise Pitch Black 2022: India participated in a 17-nation military exercise "Pitch Black 2022" held in Australia. It is Australian Air Force's International Engagement activity with forces participating from a wide range of partner and allied nations.
- A Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) was held by the Navies of India and Australia from August 15 to 20 in the Indian Ocean near Perth, Australia.
- Ex Udarsakti: Indian Air Force took part in its first ever bilateral exercise with the Royal Malaysian Air Force on August 13 at Kuantan air base of Malaysia.
- Ex Vajra Prahar 2022: The 13th edition of the Indo-US Joint Special Forces exercise was held at Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh, from August 8 to 29.
- Ex VINBAX 2022: The 3rd Edition of Vietnam-India Bilateral Army Exercise was held at Chandimandir army cantonment, Haryana from August 01 to 20.
- Exercise AL NAJAH -IV: The joint military exercise between Indian Army and the Royal Army of Oman was held from Aug 1-13 at Mahajan Field Firing Range in Bikaner, Rajasthan.
- A Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) was conducted between Japan Maritime Self Defence Force and Indian Navy on July 23 in the Andaman Sea.
- India's first indigenously developed Hydrogen Fuel Cell Bus was launched on 21st August. The Bus has been developed by the international mobility expert KPIT and CSIR in Pune.
- Uttarakhand signed a MoU with Digantara, a space sector start-up, to set-up India's first commercial "Space Situational Awareness Observatory " in Garhwal region.
 - ✓ *It will be able to track objects as small as 10 cm in size, orbiting the earth and can track military satellites hovering over the region.*
- A team of scientists in Hyderabad developed India's first 3D-printed Cornea. It was transplanted successfully into a rabbit's eye.
- India's first Saline Water Lantern which uses the sea water to power the specially designed LED lamps, was unveiled at Chennai harbour on August 13.
 - ✓ *Named 'Roshni', this unique application of technology uses the sea water as the electrolyte between specially designed electrodes to power the LED lamps.*
- ISRO launched a 3D virtual space tech park called SPARK on August 10. The park includes a museum, a theatre, an observatory, life-sized rockets, a lakeside café, children's play area along with all vital information about ISRO.

- German officials have confirmed the launch of the world's first-ever hydrogen-powered passenger train fleet. It will replace 15 diesel trains.
- Russia has decided to quit the International Space Station (ISS) after 2024. Russia's space agency Roscosmos's newly-appointed chief Yuri Borisov announced the decision to quit ISS.

INTERNATIONAL

NOVEMBER

- Members of the G-20 held their 17th annual Heads of Nations summit on Nov 15-16 at the resort Nusa Dua in Bali Island, under the Presidency of Indonesia, led by its President Joko Widodo.
 - ✓ *The theme selected for the summit was "Recover Together, Recover Stronger", focusing on collective efforts to push up post pandemic economic recovery across the globe.*
- The Health and Finance Ministers of the G-20 group launched a \$1.4 billion Pandemic Fund on November 13, just before the main summit of G-20 nations.
- The 27th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 27) of the UN Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC) was hosted by Egypt at Sharm el-Sheikh from Nov 6 to 20.
 - ✓ *COP-27 finalised a "Loss and Damage" fund for assisting developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.*
 - ✓ *International Drought Resilience Alliance was launched to accelerate action and help countries to be better prepared for future droughts.*
 - ✓ *The 28th session of the COP 28 will be hosted by the UAE in December 2023.*
- ASEAN group agreed in principle to admit East Timor as the group's 11th member, more than a decade after the country requested membership of the group.
- The UN Population Fund informed that the population clock flashed 8 billion on November 15, with the world having added one billion people in the last 12 years.
- Homer, an informal American English word for a home run in baseball, has been declared as the "Word of the Year 2022" by the Cambridge Dictionary of UK.
- Scotland's Collins Dictionary has named "Permacrisis" as the "word of the year" after an extended period which has seen people live through crises including war, inflation, climate change and political instability.
- US business conglomerate Amazon.com Inc. secured an unwanted distinction by becoming the world's

first public company to lose a trillion dollars in market value.

- Switzerland created a new world record for running the world's longest passenger train. Measuring 1,910 mt. it has 100 coaches, with a total 4,550 seats.
 - ✓ *Named 'Alpine Cruise', it is run by the Rhaetian Railway on the 122 km long Albula-Bernina route, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site.*

OCTOBER

- Rishi Sunak scripted history on Oct 25 when he was appointed by King Charles III as Britain's first Indian-origin Prime Minister after being elected unopposed as the new leader of the governing Conservative Party.
- FATF, Paris added Myanmar to the list of high-risk countries, for its 'strategic deficiencies in regimes to counter money laundering, terrorist financing, and proliferation financing, since February 2020.
- The FATF removed Pakistan from its grey list, after over four years, on Oct 21.
- Chinese President Xi Jinping, also the General Secretary of China's ruling party, secured an unprecedented third five-year term on Oct 23, at the end of the 20th National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party.
- In a landmark decision, Canada imposed a ban on sale, purchase or transfer of handguns, wef Oct 21, with a view to tackle gun violence.
- The IMF in its latest World Economic Outlook 2022 report released on Oct 11, projected that global growth will slow from 6 percent in 2021 to 3.2 percent in 2022 and 2.7 percent in 2023.
- The WTO lowered its global trade forecast for 2023 on Oct 05, from 3.5% in 2022 to just 1% in 2023 as Russia's war in Ukraine and other shocks take their toll on the world economy.
- Responding to rising food insecurity, the International Finance Corp., USA, launched a new \$6 billion financing facility to strengthen the private sector's ability to respond to the crisis and help support food production.

SEPTEMBER

- Iran signed an MoU to become the ninth full member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) during its two-day summit held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, on September 15 and 16.

AUGUST

- For the first time in the history of Bangladesh, women outnumbered men in its total population. 6th population census of Bangladesh recorded 8.33 crore women, 8.17 crore men, and 12,629 hijras in the total population.

- The UN General Assembly adopted a resolution on July 28 that declares access to a "Clean, healthy and sustainable environment" a universal human right.
- On July 23, the WHO Director-General declared the escalating global monkeypox outbreak as a "Public Health Emergency of International Concern".
 - ✓ *This means that the outbreak is a significant enough threat to global health and needs a coordinated international response is needed.*

PERSONS IN NEWS

NOVEMBER

Sh. Narendra Modi: Indian Prime Minister remains the world's most popular leader with an approval rating of 77%, as revealed by the Global Leader Approval Ratings released by a US based consulting firm Morning Consult.

OCTOBER

Shiv Nadar: As per the EdelGive Hurun India Philanthropy List 2022, HCL founder topped as the most generous person in the country with an annual donation of Rs 1,161 crore.

Mallikarjun Kharge: Veteran Karnataka leader defeated his rival Shashi Tharoor on Oct 19 to become the first non-Gandhi Congress president in 24 years.

Pankaj Tripathi: Mirzapur fame actor was named the "National Icon " of the Election Commission of India on Oct. 4.

Nikhil Kamath: 36-year-old co-founder of stock broking start-up Zerodha, topped the IIFL Wealth Hurun India 40 & Under Self-Made Rich List.

SEPTEMBER

Gautam Adani: Business conglomerate Adani Group's chairman pushed Amazon Chief Jeff Bezos to fourth position to rank at third spot in the Forbes' Real-Time Billionaires List as on Sep 25.

- ✓ *His reported net worth was \$143.1 billion, just behind Elon Musk (\$254.6 bn) and Bernard Arnault (\$144.0 bn). Bezos reported a net worth of \$ 137.2 bn.*

Miss Divita Rai: The 23-year-old beauty queen from Karnataka won the coveted "Miss Diva Universe 2022" title on August 28 in Mumbai.

AUGUST

Roshni Nadar Malhotra: As per the Kotak Private Banking-Hurun's Leading Wealthy Women list released on July 27, the chairperson of HCL Technologies, was crowned as the wealthiest woman in India with a fortune of ₹84.3 crore in 2021.

APPOINTMENTS

NOVEMBER

Dr. C V Ananda Bose: The 71-year-old former bureaucrat was appointed Governor of West Bengal on Nov 17, by the President of India.

Justice Rituraj Awasthi: Central Government on November 7 appointed the Retired Chief Justice of Karnataka High Court as the Chairperson of the Law Commission of India.

Subhrakant Panda: Elected as the President of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) on Nov 2. He is the Managing Director of Indian Metals & Ferro Alloys Ltd. (IMFA).

Lt Gen Asim Munir: A former head of Pakistan's spy agency ISI, was appointed as the next chief of Pakistan Army on Nov 24.

Anwar Ibrahim: Long term reformist was sworn in as prime minister of Malaysia on Nov 24.

Kassym-Jomart Tokayev: Re-elected as the President of Kazakhstan for a second term.

Natasa Pirc Musar: Elected as the first female President of Slovenia on November 13.

Benjamin Netanyahu: 73-year-old Chief of right-wing Likud Party won majority seats in the Knesset, Israel's parliament, to become the Prime Minister of Israel for a 6th term.

Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva: Elected as new president of Brazil by defeating incumbent president Jair Bolsonaro in a very close contest.

OCTOBER

Lt. Gen. Anil Chauhan (Retired): Appointed as the next Chief of Defence Staff (CDS). He will also function as Secretary, Department of Military Affairs.

R Venkataramani: Senior advocate has been appointed as the new Attorney General of India by the President of India, for a period of three years from 1st of October.

Anish Dayal Singh: Senior IPS officer appointed as the new Director General of the ITBP.

Sujoy Lal Thakosen: Senior IPS officer appointed as the new Director General of the CRPF.

Shefali Juneja: Elected as the Chairperson of the International Civil Aviation Organisation's Aviation Security Committee.

A K Goel: MD and CEO of Punjab National Bank was re-elected as the chairman of the Indian Banks' Association for a period of one year.

Ulf Kristersson: Sweden's parliament Riksdag elected Moderates leader as the country's new Prime Minister.

Mohammed Shia al-Sudani: Appointed as the Prime Minister of Iraq by the President Rashid.

Prince Mohammed bin Salman: In Saudi Arabia, King Salman bin Abdulaziz named his son and heir Crown as the Prime Minister of the kingdom.

Giorgia Meloni: Became the Italy's first female Prime Minister. 46-year-old Meloni led her just ten-year-old "Brothers of Italy" party to victory.

Abdul Latif Rashid: A Kurdish politician was elected as the 9th President of Iraq by its Parliament.

SEPTEMBER

Conservative Party leader and former foreign secretary of the UK, Ms. Liz Truss was sworn-in as 56th prime minister of the United Kingdom on Sep 06. **However, she resigned on Oct 20 and was replaced by Rishi Sunak.**

AUGUST

Dr Krishnamurthy Subramanian: Appointed to the post of Executive Director (India) at the IMF by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. He is ex- Chief Economic Adviser of India.

Dr. Samir V Kamat: Distinguished materials scientist was appointed Secretary of the Deptt. Of Defence Research and Development and Chairman of the DRDO.

Justice Uday Umesh Lalit: Appointed as the 49th Chief Justice of India (CJI). He took over from incumbent CJI N V Ramana, wef August 27, 2022 and will demit office on November 9, 2022 on superannuation.

Vikram Doraiswami: Senior diplomat has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the United Kingdom.

Rajesh Verma: Odisha cadre IAS officer has been appointed as the Secretary to President Droupadi Murmu.

Dr Kalaiselvi N: Appointed as the first woman Director-General of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), New Delhi.

Suresh N. Patel: Sworn in as the Central Vigilance Commissioner on August 03.

William Ruto: Won the Presidential election in Kenya.

Gustavo Petro: A former member of M-19 guerrilla group, was sworn in as the President of Colombia.

AWARDS & HONOURS

NOVEMBER

Union Home Minister's Special Operation Medal for the year 2022 were announced for the four Special Operations.

Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development-2021: Awarded to Mumbai based NGO Pratham on Nov 19 in New Delhi, in recognition of its work in ensuring quality education for children of the country, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. The prize carries a cash award of Rs 25 lakh.

5th JCB Prize for Literature: Won by Khalid Jawed of New Delhi for the English translation of his Urdu novel "Ne'mat Khana"; translated as "The Paradise of Food" by Baran Farooqi.

✓ *Jawed received the prize money of Rs 25 lakh along with a trophy while Farooqi got Rs. 10 lakh prize.*

Champions of the Earth 2022: Assam's leading conservationist Purnima Devi Barman was awarded the United Nation's highest environmental honour, in the Entrepreneurial Vision Category, for leading the 'Hargila Army' to save the Hargila bird (Greater Adjutant Stork) from extinction.

UNESCO Madanjeet Singh Prize-2022: The prestigious \$ 100,000 prize for the promotion of tolerance and non-violence, has been given to Ms. Franca Ma-ih Sulem Yong from Cameroon, for her hard work to change the perception related to mental illness.

Gandhi Peace Pilgrimage Award: Indian spiritual Guru Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, founder of Art of Living, was presented this award in Atlanta, USA in recognition of his efforts to spread peace and non-violence.

Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des: The French government's highest civilian honour awarded to Aruna Sairam, classical Carnatic vocalist, humanitarian and speaker from Chennai for her contribution towards development of the Indo-France relationship.

OCTOBER

The Dada Saheb Phalke Award for the year 2020 will be awarded to legendary actress Asha Parekh for her exemplary lifetime contribution to Indian Cinema.

National Intellectual Property Award: Won by the Indian Institute of Technology-Madras for 2021 and 2022. The prize has been established by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

The SASTRA Ramanujan Prize, 2022: Awarded to Ms. Yunqing Tang, Assistant Professor at the University of California, Berkeley, USA. The \$10,000 award is

presented to individuals aged 32 and below, for making outstanding contribution to the field of Mathematics.

32nd Bihari Puraskar: Awarded to Dr Madhav Hada for his 2015 literary criticism book 'Pachrang Chola Pahar Sakhi Ri'.

NOBEL PRIZES – 2022

FIELD	WINNER OF 2022
Physiology or Medicine	Svante Paabo
For understanding how modern-day humans evolved from extinct ancestors.	
Physics	Alain Aspect (France), John F Clauser (USA) and Anton Zeilinger (Austria)
For their work on quantum mechanics using entangled quantum states, where two particles behave like a single unit even when they are separated.	
Chemistry	Carolyn Bertozzi, Barry Sharpless (both from USA) and Morton Meldal (Denmark)
For their work on snipping molecules together, known as Click chemistry, useful for making cancer drugs and mapping DNA.	
Literature	French writer Annie Ernaux
For the courage and clinical acuity with which she uncovers the roots, estrangements and collective restraints of personal memory.	
Peace	Ales Byalyatski, Belarus, Memorial, Russia and Center for Civil Liberties, Ukraine
For promoting the right to criticise power and protect the fundamental rights of citizens.	
Economics (Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences)	Ben S. Bernanke and two US-based economists, Douglas W Diamond and Philip H Dybvig
For research on banks and financial crises. Their research significantly improved understanding of the role of banks in the economy, particularly during financial crises.	

The Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought 2022

The European Parliament announced on Oct 19 to award this prize to the people of Ukraine for showing exemplary courage in fight for what they believe in.

2022 Booker Prize: Sri Lankan author Shehan Karunatilaka, 47, was named the winner of this prestigious prize for his second novel 'The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida'.

UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award: Former German chancellor Angela Merkel won the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) prestigious Nansen award for her "leadership, courage and compassion" in ensuring the protection of hundreds of thousands of refugees at the height of the Syria crisis.

SEPTEMBER

The 67th Filmfare Awards, 2022

Best Film (Popular Category): Shershaah

Best Director: Vishnuvardhan for Shershaah

Best Actor: Ranveer Singh for 83

Best Actress: Kriti Sanon for Mimi

Filmfare Lifetime Achievement Award: Subhash Ghai, noted film producer

31st Vyasa Samman: Awarded to noted Hindi writer Dr. Asghar Wajahat for his play Mahabali, published in 2019.

Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur: The French government conferred the highest French civilian award (Knight of the Legion of Honour) on scientist-industrialist Dr Swati Piramal, Vice-Chairperson of the Piramal Group on Sep 16 in Mumbai.

Breakthrough Prizes -2023

Announced on Sep 22 in three categories: fundamental physics, mathematics, and life sciences. At \$3 million each, the prizes are the world's most lucrative monetary awards for achievements in science.

Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences: Awarded to Clifford P. Brangwynne and Anthony A. Hyman; Demis Hassabis and John Jumper; Emmanuel Mignot and Masashi Yanagisawa.

Breakthrough Prize in Mathematics: Awarded to Daniel A. Spielman.

Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics: Awarded to Charles H. Bennett, Gilles Brassard, David Deutsch and Peter Shor.

Ramon Magsaysay Awards-2022: Awarded to four persons on August 31 to honour their path breaking contributions for the welfare of the society. Sotheara Chhim, a mental health advocate from Cambodia; Tadashi Hattori, a sight-saving humanitarian from Japan; Gary Benchehib, an anti-pollution (rivers) crusader from Indonesia and Bernadette J. Madrid, a child rights activist from the Philippines

AUGUST

Shashi Tharoor: The French government selected senior Congress leader for conferring France's highest civilian award Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur upon him for his writings and speeches.

The University of Hyderabad has been ranked first among Indian Universities in the latest Nature Index 2022 ranking.

UNESCO Peace Prize: Formally known as "Félix Houphouët-Boigny-UNESCO Peace Prize", conferred upon former German Chancellor Angela Merkel for her support to more than 1.2 million refugees in 2015.

OBITUARY

NOVEMBER

Areez Pirojshaw Khambatta: Chairman of the Rasna Group passed away on Nov 19 at the age of 85. Khambatta is known for creating the iconic home-grown beverage brand Rasna.

Elaben Bhatt: Renowned women's rights activist and the founder of SEWA (Self Employed Women's Association), died in Ahmedabad on Nov 2, due to age-related issues. She was 89.

Jamshed J Irani: The former MD of Tata Steel, who was also famously known as the 'Steel Man of India' passed away on October 31 in Jamshedpur.

OCTOBER

Mulayam Singh Yadav: Three-time Uttar Pradesh chief minister and Samajwadi Party founder, passed away at a private Gurugram hospital on Oct 10, after a prolonged illness. He was 82. He was popularly known as "Netaji".

Tulsi Tanti: Founder of wind energy giant Suzlon Energy, popularly known as India's 'wind man', died of cardiac arrest at 64 on Oct 1.

SEPTEMBER

Raju Srivastava: Comedy King who made a mark as a stand-up comedian died on Sep 21 after spending more than 40 days in hospital. He was 58.

Swami Swaroopanand Saraswati: Dwarka-Sharda Peeth Shankaracharya passed away on Sep 11 at Shridham Jhoteswar Ashram in Narsinghpur in Madhya Pradesh. He was 99 years old.

Prof. B B Lal: Veteran archaeologist and a former Director General of the Archaeological Survey of India, from 1968 to 1972, Professor Brij Basi Lal died at his Delhi residence on Sep 10 at the age of 101.

Cyrus Mistry: A publicly-shy business tycoon who once headed the Tata Group, died in a ghastly road accident on Sep 04, when he was returning to Mumbai from Ahmedabad.

Abhijit Sen: Veteran Economist, a former member of the Planning Commission (2004-14) and Professor at the JNU's Centre for Economics and Planning, passed away in New Delhi on August 29 at the age of 72.

Queen Elizabeth II: The longest-serving monarch of the United Kingdom, passed away at her Scottish estate Balmoral on Sep 8, after reigning for 70 years. At 96, she was the world's oldest and longest-serving head of state.

Mikhail Gorbachev: Veteran Russian statesman died on August 30 at the age of 91 in Moscow. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1990.

✓ *He coined two terms, "Glasnost" (openness) allowing freedom of media, and "Perestroika", meaning "restructuring," of the economy and political system.*

AUGUST

Rakesh Jhunjhunwala: Veteran stock market investor, popular as the "Big Bull of Dalal Street", passed away on August 14 in Mumbai. He was 62.

PLACES IN NEWS

NOVEMBER

Donyi Polo Airport: A 4th airport in Arunachal Pradesh was inaugurated on Nov 19 at its capital Itanagar. The name Donyi-Polo comes from local Gods; Donyi meaning the Sun whereas Polo means the Moon.

Mawmluh Cave: The International Union of Geological Sciences from UNESCO, has recognised the Mawmluh Cave, in the East Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya, as one of the first 100 IUGS geological heritage sites.

Vadodara: City in Gujarat became the second Indian city to issue a municipal bond with assistance from the US Treasury Deptt. Office of Technical Assistance.

Aibawk: The cluster of 11 villages, in the Aizawl district of Mizoram, has become the first cluster to be completed under the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission.

Mangarh Dham: A small town located in the district Banswara of Rajasthan, on the Gujarat-Rajasthan border, was declared as a 'National Monument' by the Prime Minister Modi on Nov 01.

Morbi: More than 140 people lost their lives and several others were injured after a century-old suspension bridge on the Machhu river in Gujarat's Morbi city collapsed on Oct 30.

Cianjur: Densely populated town in West Java, Indonesia was struck by a severe 5.6 magnitude earthquake on Nov 21. The tremors destroyed several buildings, leading to the death of at least 268 people.

OCTOBER

Cyclone Sitrang: A strong cyclone devastated vast areas in southern Bangladesh on Oct 24-25.

Ayodhya: Holy city in Uttar Pradesh created a new world record on Oct 23 by lighting the most diyas (earthen lamps), over 15 lakh, at the Ram ki Paidi ghats on the banks of River Sarayu.

Hyderabad: The metro city in Telangana won the overall 'World Green City Award 2022' and another in the

category 'Living Green for Economic Recovery and Inclusive Growth' on Oct 14 at the International Association of Horticulture Producers' 2022 World Green City Awards 2022 held in Jeju, South Korea.

Modhera: A village in Mehsana district of Gujarat, has been declared as India's first 24X7 solar-powered village.

The India Expo Centre and Mart: The mega convention centre in Greater Noida, UP was adjudged the best convention centre by the union ministry of tourism on Sep 28, as part of the National Tourism Awards 2022.

Pullampara: This village in the Thiruvananthapuram district of Kerala achieved the distinction of becoming the first totally digitally literate panchayat in the country.

Lata Smriti Chowk: A roundabout named Lata Smriti Chowk, in Ayodhya was dedicated to the melody queen Lata Mangeshkar on Sep 28, her 93rd birthday. A 40-ft-long and 12-metre-high veena, weighing 14 tonnes, has been installed at the intersection.

Chandigarh Airport: The Chandigarh International Airport was officially named as Shaheed Bhagat Singh International Airport on Sep 28, as a tribute to the freedom fighter on his 115th birth anniversary.

Cochin International Airport: The Airport Council International, Montreal, Canada awarded the Airport Service Quality award 2022 to the Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) for its implementation of the 'Mission Safeguarding' programme.

Malang: A stampede at a soccer stadium in Malang in Indonesia on Oct 01 killed over 125 people and injured more than 320, making it one of the world's worst stadium disasters.

Hurricane Ian: A monster Category 4 storm made landfall on the southwest coast of Florida, USA on Sep 28-29 with powerful winds of up to 240 kmph and torrential rains.

SEPTEMBER

Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park: The zoo in Darjeeling, West Bengal, bagged the top position among the zoos in the country among about 150 zoos across the country.

Astana: Name of the capital of Kazakhstan has been changed from Nur Sultan to Astana, its earlier name.

Typhoon Nanmadol: One of the biggest storms in recent decades made landfall on the southern island of Kyushu, Japan on Sep 18. The super typhoon destroyed homes, and disrupted transport and businesses.

Aurangabad: City in Maharashtra has become the first in the country to witness the official release of the Environmental Insights Explorer data from Google to measure the carbon emission sources.

Padang: Singapore declared the iconic green site Padang, from where Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose gave the slogan of 'Delhi Chalo' in July 1943, as its 75th national monument on August 09.

SPORTS WORLD

NATIONAL SPORTS AWARDS 2022

The Youth Affairs and Sports Ministry announced the National Sports Awards 2022 on Nov 14. The awards were decided by the Selection Committee headed by Justice A. M. Khanwilkar, Retd. Judge, Supreme Court.

- ✓ *Table Tennis player Sharath Kamal Achanta won the Major Dhyani Chand Khel Ratna Award, the highest recognition from the government side in sports.*
- ✓ *Arjuna Awards were given to 25 sportspersons. Seven coaches were chosen for the Dronacharya Award. Dhyani Chand Award for Lifetime Achievement was given to four senior sportspersons.*
- ✓ *Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy 2022 was given to Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar for the most outstanding performance in sports.*

Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Awards-2021

Ms. Naina Dhakad – Land Adventure
Shubham D. Vanmali – Water Adventure
Group Captain Kunwar Bhawani Singh Samyal – Life time Achievement

Manika Batra became the first Indian female to win a medal at the ITTF-ATTU Asian Cup tournament in Bangkok, Thailand.

Pramod Bhagat and Manisha Ramadass, paralympic badminton champions won their respective gold medals on Nov 6 at the BWF Para Badminton World Championships in Tokyo, Japan.

Saurav Ghoshal and Ramit Tandon won their first-ever team gold in Squash on Nov 4 at the Asian Squash Team Championships in Cheongju, South Korea.

R Praggnanandha and, compatriot PV Nandhidhaa won the titles in the open and women's sections, respectively, on Nov 03 at the Asian Continental Chess Championship in New Delhi.

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty bagged the biggest title of their badminton career on Oct 30, claiming the French Open Super 750 crown in Paris. Later, the duo also won the doubles title on Nov 3 at the Hylo Open at Saarbrücken, Germany.

Narayan Jagadeesan, Tamil Nadu batter shattered the world record for the highest individual score in men's List A cricket in ODI format on Nov 21 by hammering 277 runs against Arunachal Pradesh in Bengaluru in the Vijay Hazare Trophy.

Virat Kohli scripted history on Nov 10 by becoming the first batter in history to reach 4000 runs in T20 Internationals.

Suryakumar Yadav became the first Indian player on Nov 6 to score 1,000 T20 International runs in a calendar year.

Suryakumar Yadav reached world's No. 1 T20I batter ranking on Nov 2 on the back of his unbeaten 51 off 25 balls against the Netherlands in Sydney.

Neeraj Chopra: Switzerland Tourism has appointed the Olympic Gold medalist as the 'Friendship Ambassador' of the country.

Mary Kom, boxing queen, was unanimously elected as the Chairperson of the Athletes Commission of the Indian Olympic Association on Nov 15.

Achanta Sharath Kamal, Table Tennis champion, has become the first player from India to get elected in the Athletes' Commission of the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF), Lausanne, Switzerland.

15th Asian Airgun Championship 2022: India topped the medal tally in the Championships held in Daegu, South Korea, winning 38 of the total 86 medals, including 25 gold, 9 silver and 4 bronze.

In the Asian Boxing Championships in Amman Jordan, Indian woman pugilists Praveen Hooda, Lovlina Borgohain, Saweety Boora, and Alfiya Pathan claimed gold medals on Nov 11.

Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Trophy: Mumbai lifted the trophy by defeating Himachal Pradesh on Nov 05 in the finals played in Kolkata.

2022 U-17 Women's World (Football) Cup: Defending champion Spain beat Colombia 1-0 to win the finals played at the D Y Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai.

Sultan of Johor Cup 2022: Indian Under 21 men's hockey team lifted the Cup by defeating Australia in a tough final played at Johor Bahru, Malaysia on Oct 29.

Khelo India National University Games - 2023-2024 will be hosted by Uttar Pradesh in four cities, Lucknow, Gorakhpur, Varanasi, and Noida.

"Football4Schools" programme launched

The All-India Football Federation, Union Ministry for Education and the FIFA signed a MoU in Navi Mumbai to broad base football across various schools in the country through the "Football for Schools" programme.

BCCI announces match fee parity

In a historic move, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced on Oct 27 to pay equal match fee to both men and women cricket players of India.

INTRNATIONAL

FIFA WORLD CUP 2022 OPENS IN QATAR

Football's greatest show on Earth, the 22nd FIFA World Cup 2022 was officially declared open on Nov 20 at the Al Bayt Stadium in Al Khor, Qatar.

- It is the world's largest single sports quadrennial event (every four years)
- It is the first time that an Arab country is hosting the tournament.
- 32 top countries from five regions will compete for the title.
- All 64 matches held across eight stadiums in Qatar.
- The opening match was played between Qatar and Ecuador.
- The final held on December 18 at the 80,000-seater Lusail Stadium in Lusail, Qatar.
- The FIFA World Cup trophy is the most costly sports trophy in the world, costing about Rs 144 crore. It is made of 18 carat gold and weighs 6.1 kilos.
- FIFA has allocated \$440 million in prize money for the 2022 World Cup
- The winner of the World Cup in Qatar will receive \$42 million (INR 344 crores). The runner-up will get \$20 million (INR 245 crores).
- Even the bottom ranked 16 teams, each will get \$9 million as participation fee.
- All 32 teams will also receive \$1.5 million each for meeting their preparation expenses.
- Qatar is expected to generate \$ 6.5 billion, surpassing all previous tournaments. During the 2018 World Cup in Russia, revenue worth \$ 5.2 billion was generated.
- The event is a boon for FIFA too, as it earned record revenues of \$7.5 billion in the four years of commercial deals tied to this year's tournament. It is \$1 billion more than the 2018 Russia Cup.
- The official mascot of the Qatar World Cup is La'eeb. The Arabic word "La'eeb" means "super-skilled player." It is inspired by the keffiyeh, a traditional headdress made of cloth, worn by Arab men.
- The name of the football to be used during the world cup is Al Rihla (meaning 'Journey' in Arabic). It has been made by the German multinational sports company Adidas.
- France is the defending champion, having won their second title in 2018 after defeating Croatia in the final.
- Canada, Mexico and the United States will host the 2026 tournament.

- FIFA stands for Federation Internationale de Football Association, translated in English as International Federation of Football Association.
- Gianni Infantino, a Swiss-Italian football administrator is the current President of FIFA.
- Headquarters of FIFA are based in Zurich, Switzerland. It has 209 members.

Cristiano Ronaldo, 37-year-old Portugal striker became the first male player in FIFA history to score in five world Cups by scoring a goal against Ghana on Nov 24 at Doha.

Novak Djokovic (Serbia) defeated Norway's Casper Ruud to secure a record-equalling (of Roger Federer) sixth ATP Finals title on Nov 20 in Turin, Italy, earning the biggest pay check ever in tennis -- \$4,740,300/-.

Max Verstappen, of team Red Bull won the Mexico City Grand Prix on Oct 30 to set a F1 record of 14 victories in a single season.

✓ *With this victory he beat the record for most wins, 13 in a season, set by Michael Schumacher in 2004 and equalled by Sebastian Vettel in 2013.*

✓ *He won his record 15th title also by winning F1 Abu Dhabi race on Nov 20 in Abu Dhabi, UAE.*

ICC T-20 World Cup: England created history by winning their second T-20 world cup defeating Pakistan by five wickets in the finals played at the Melbourne Cricket Ground in Melbourne, Australia. Sam Curran of England was named Player of the Match as well as Player of the Series.

Sebastian Vettel, German racing driver, announced his retirement from Formula One racing, after his last participation in Abu Dhabi Grand Prix on Nov 20. The 35-year-old F1 champ won the F1 World Championship four times, consecutively from 2010 to 2013.

Greg Barclay, veteran sports administrator from New Zealand was unanimously re-elected as Chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC) on Nov 12 for a second two-year term.

Mohammad Tayyab Ikram of Macau (a special administrative region of China) was elected as the new president of the International Hockey Federation (FIH), succeeding India's Narinder Batra as its full-time chief.

"Phryges" – Mascots for Paris Olympics

Organisers of the 2024 Paris Olympics and Paralympics unveiled Phryges as the mascot for the games on Nov 14 at Paris.

✓ *"Phryges" is a soft red hat which was worn by freed slaves. It became a symbol of freedom during France revolution.*

✓ *The Paralympic mascot has a running blade, making it the first time that a mascot for the Games has had a visible disability.*

Teenager Aman Sehrawat, 16, became the first Indian to win a gold medal at the U-23 World Wrestling Championships in Pontevedra, Spain.

Sajan Bhanwal became the first-ever Indian Greco-Roman wrestler on Oct 19 to win a medal at the Under-23 World Championship.

Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh, 16, stunned 5-time world champion Magnus Carlsen in the ninth round of the preliminary phase of the Aimchess Rapid online chess tournament, becoming youngest player to do so.

Jyothi Yarraji of Andhra Pradesh, from Railways, created history by becoming the first Indian woman to clock a sub-13 second time in 100-meter hurdles race on Oct 17 at the National Open Athletics Championships.

Pankaj Advani, ace cueist secured his 25th gold medal on the world stage, winning the 2022 IBSF World Billiards Championship on Oct 8 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. This was his fifth world title in a row.

Women's Asia Cup 2022: India lifted the Cup for the 7th time after defeating Sri Lanka in the final by 8 wickets on Oct 15 at Sylhet International Cricket Stadium, Bangladesh.

Irani Cup: Team Rest of India won their 29th Irani Cup with an eight-wicket victory over Saurashtra in the finals played in Rajkot, Gujarat on Oct 04. It is the national level test format cricket tournament in India.

The 36th National Games came to a close on Oct 12 at Surat, Gujarat. Services topped the medal tally with a total of 128 medals including 61 Gold, 35 silver, and 32 bronze medals.

✓ *Harshika Ramchandran from Karnataka won the Best Female Player award while Sajan Prakash from Kerala won the Best Male Player award.*

The FIFA U-17 Women World Cup India 2022 started on Oct 11 with a grand opening ceremony at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

✓ *The official mascot for the tournament is Ibha, designed after an Asiatic lioness. The official slogan of the event is "Kick Off The Dream".*

Veteran player Roger Binny was elected the 36th president of the BCCI on October 18, taking over from Sourav Ganguly to run the world's richest cricket board.

Mumtaz Khan, 19-year-old Indian forward hockey player was named the "FIH Women's Rising Star of the Year" on Oct 04 for her stellar role as India's top scorer in the 2022 women's junior hockey World Cup in South Africa and in FIH Hockey5s, Lausanne, earlier this year.

Star batter Virat Kohli on Oct 02 became the first Indian to complete 11,000 runs in T20 history.

Rohit Sharma became the first-ever Indian to play 400 T20s. He achieved the milestone in the 2nd T20I of the series against South Africa in Guwahati.

Sunil Chhetri: FIFA released a 3 episode series "Captain Fantastic" on the life and career of talismanic Indian football team captain to honour his achievements and goalscoring exploits.

Harmanpreet Singh was voted the FIH Player of the Year, 2021-22 for the second year running. Felice Albers of Netherlands was named the FIH Player of the Year in the women's category.

PR Sreejesh and Savita Punia have been voted FIH Men's and Women's Goalkeeper of the Year for the second year in a row.

The 5th Khelo India Youth Games -2022 will be held in Madhya Pradesh, from 31 Jan to 11 Feb, 2023.

Women's IPL: The BCCI gave a green signal to conduct Women's Indian Premier League. It will begin as a five-team tournament in 2023.

37th National Games: The Indian Olympic Association confirmed that the 37th edition of the National Games will be hosted by Goa in October next year.

INTERNATIONAL

Ballon d'Or: Karim Benzema of France won his first top French Football prize on October 17. He plays for Real Madrid FC. Barcelona star Alexia Putellas became the first woman to win back-to-back Ballon d'Or trophies.

2022 Denmark Open (Badminton): Shi Yuqi (China) won men's singles while women's title was won by China's He Bingjiao.

Cristiano Ronaldo, the 37-year-old Portuguese forward footballer, achieved a record 700 club career goals, becoming the first and only player to score 700 goals in football history.

FIBA Women's Basketball World Cup: The United States defeated China to win the world cup in the finals played on Oct 01 at the Sydney Superdome, Australia.

FIFA unveiled Penguin Tazuni as the official mascot of next year's FIFA Women's World Cup in Australia and New Zealand.

The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Executive Committee in its meeting on Oct 17, confirmed the Qatar Football Association (QFA) as the host association for AFC Asian Cup 2023.

Vinesh Phogat became the first Indian woman wrestler to win two medals at the World Championships after clinching a bronze in the 53-kilogram category on Sep 14 in Belgrade, Serbia.

On Sep 18, Bajrang Punia captured a bronze medal in the men's 65 kg category, becoming the only Indian to have won four medals in wrestling at the international level.

Neeraj Chopra, the Indian javelin ace, achieved yet another historic feat on Sep 08 becoming the first Indian to win the gold at the prestigious Zurich Diamond League Final 2022 in Switzerland.

Devendra Jhajharia, champion para javelin thrower clinched a silver medal in the World Para Athletics Grand Prix, in Morocco on Sep 17.

Pranav Anand and A R Ilamparathi won titles in the Open under-16 and under-14 categories, respectively, on Sep 16 in the World Youth Chess Championship held in Mamaia in Romania. With this win, Pranav became the 76th Grand Master from India.

Grandmaster Aravindh Chithambaram emerged champion in the 22nd Dubai Open chess tournament held in Dubai on September 04.

Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi won the 28th Abu Dhabi Masters Chess Tournament on August 25 by defeating Spain's GM David Anton Guijarro with 7.5 points.

Duleep Trophy: The West Zone defeated the South Zone on Sep 25 in Coimbatore to win the Duleep Trophy for a record 19th time.

131st Durand Cup: Bengaluru FC defeated Mumbai City FC in the finals played in Kolkata on Sep 18 to win their first Durand Cup Trophy.

Leh, in UT of Ladakh, hosted the first-ever official UCI MTB (International Cyclist Union- Mountain Bike) event in India on Sep 04.

Star batter Virat Kohli, after playing the T20 match against Pakistan on August 28 at Dubai, became the first Indian (and second in world) to have played a hundred matches for India in all the three formats, T20, ODI and test, of the game. Virat is second only to Ross Taylor of New Zealand.

Jhulan Goswami: Legendary pacer (fast bowler) announced her retirement from the glorious career of cricket on Sep 24, after playing her last international match against England at Lords, London.

✓ *Hurling the ball at 115 to 120 kmph, Jhulan is the fastest woman bowler in the world, earning her the*

nickname "Chakdaha Express", after her native village near Kolkata.

Cricketer Suresh Raina announced his retirement on Sep 06 from all formats of cricket.

The mascot and the anthem for the 36th National Games was unveiled on September 04 in Ahmedabad. The mascot is named 'Savaj' which means little lion in Gujarati. The anthem is based on the theme of "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat". The theme of the games is 'Celebrating Unity Through Sports'.

Dilip Tirkey, a former India hockey captain and member of the gold medal-winning team at the 1998 Asian Games, was unanimously elected as President of Hockey India.

INTERNATIONAL

Eliud Kipchoge, two-time Olympics champion from Kenya, bettered his own world record in the Berlin Marathon on Sep 25. The 37-year-old runner clocked 2 hours, 1 minute, 9 seconds to shave 30 seconds off his previous best timing.

Daihatsu Yonex Japan Open Badminton Championship: Men's and women's singles titles won by Kenta Nishimoto and Akane Yamaguchi, respectively. **BWF World Championships** concluded in Tokyo on August 28. Viktor Axelsen of Denmark won the men's singles title. Akane Yamaguchi of Japan won the women's singles title.

UEFA Player of the Year-2022

Men's winner: Karim Benzema, French striker from FC Real Madrid

Women's winner: Alexia Putellas, Spanish midfielder from FC Barcelona

US OPEN CONCLUDES AT NEW YORK

Spanish teenager Carlos Alcaraz, 19, beat Casper Ruud of Norway on Sep 11 to win the Men's Singles title, becoming the youngest world number one.

Women's singles title was won by world number one, Iga Swiatek of Poland by defeating Tunisia's Ons Jabeur.

15th Asia Cup (T20 cricket): Sri Lanka defeated Pakistan by 23 runs to lift their 6th Asia Cup title at the Dubai International Stadium on Sep 11.

SAFF Women's Football Championship: Bangladesh won a historic victory to lift their maiden title by defeating Nepal in the finals played on Sep 19 at Dashrath Rangasala Stadium in Kathmandu. SAFF: South Asian Football Federation, Dhaka, Bangladesh

SAFF under-17 Football Championship: India clinched the title for the fourth time, defeating Nepal 4-0 in the final played on Sep 14 in Colombo.

Roger Federer, veteran tennis icon from Switzerland, announced his retirement from professional tennis at the age of 41. He played his last match in the Laver Cup (Sep 23-25) in London. He won 20 Grand Slam titles and held the record for most consecutive weeks-237-at No-1 in the ATP Rankings.

AUGUST

Neeraj Chopra, became the first Indian to clinch the prestigious Lausanne Diamond League in Switzerland with a best throw of 89.08 metre.

Linthoi Chanambam, 15-year-old girl from Manipur, claimed a historic gold on August 26 in the 57 kg category at the World Cadet Judo Championship in Sarajevo, capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina, becoming the first Indian to win a medal in the tournament across any age group.

R Pragganandhaa, Indian chess master, defeated world champion Magnus Carlsen on August 22 in the last round of the FTX Crypto Cup in Miami, USA.

Para shuttlers Mandeep Kaur, Manisha Ramadass and Nithya Sre, all three won individual gold in their respective categories on August 20 at the Thailand Para Badminton International Tournament in Pattaya.

Antim Panghal, 17-year-old Haryana wrestler scripted history on August 19 by becoming the first ever Indian woman wrestler to win a Gold medal in 53 kg category at Under-20 World Wrestling Championship, held in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Para athlete javelin thrower Sumit Antil and discus thrower Yogesh Kathuniya created new World Records on August 19 at the 4th Indian Open National Para-Athletics Championships 2022 in Bengaluru.

V Pranav, the 16-year-old chess prodigy from Chennai became India's 75th Grand Master on August 07 by winning the Limpede Open in Baia Mare, Romania.

Pooja Ojha, the para-canoeing athlete made history on August 05 by winning India's first ever medal in canoeing at the 2022 ICF Canoe Sprint World Championships in Dartmouth, Canada.

Suraj Vashishth, 16-year-old wrestler from Rohtak, Haryana created history on July 27 by becoming the first ever Indian to win Gold in the Greco-Roman U-17 World Wrestling Championship in Rome, Italy.

INDIA SECURES 22 GOLD IN C'WEALTH GAMES

The 22nd edition of the Commonwealth Games kicked off with a glitzy opening ceremony on July 28 at the Alexander Stadium in Birmingham, UK.

- Prince Charles declared open the 22nd Commonwealth Games.
- PV Sindhu and Manpreet Singh were India's flag-bearers at the parade of the opening ceremony.

- A 215-member Indian contingent, competed in 15 sporting events.
- More than 5,000 athletes from 72 nations competed for 280 medals.
- The event concluded on 8th of August.
- Australia topped the final standings with 178 medals including 67 gold, 57 silver, 54 bronze.
- India finished fourth in the medals tally with 61 medals comprising 22 gold, 16 silver and 23 bronze.

Uzbekistan, Ukraine win Chess Olympiad

The 44th FIDE Chess Olympiad hosted by Chennai, concluded on August 9. The Uzbekistan team won the gold medal in the open section while Armenia and India-2 team won the silver and bronze, respectively.

In the women's section, Ukraine won the gold, Georgia the silver, while India won the bronze. It was for the first time that the Chess Olympiad was held in India, the place where the game began.

SAFF U20 Football Championship: India trounced Bangladesh 5-2 in the finals played at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. **SAFF:** South Asian Football Federation.

AIFF - All India Football Federation declared National captain Sunil Chhetri as AIFF Men's Footballer of the Year, 2021-22 for the seventh time while Manisha Kalyan was picked for her maiden title as the AIFF Women's Footballer of the Year.

Viswanathan Anand, Indian chess legend was elected as the Deputy President of FIDE, the world governing body of chess, on August 07.

INTERNATIONAL

Oleksandr Usyk, 35-year-old former world heavyweight boxing champion from Ukraine beat the current world champion, Britain's Anthony Joshua in a rematch held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia on August 21 to retain his WBA, WBO, IBF and IBO world heavyweight boxing belts.

Kieron Pollard, former West Indies captain became the first cricketer on August 8 to play 600 matches in T20 cricket.

Serena Williams, American tennis legend, announced her retirement from professional tennis, after playing the forthcoming US Open, starting on August 29. 41-year-old Serena has won 23 Grand Slam singles titles, the most by any player in the open era. She had been ranked world number one by the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) for 319 weeks, consecutively.

FIDE - The International Chess Federation, has announced that the 2026 Chess Olympiad shall be hosted by Uzbekistan.

Model Test For General / Economy / Banking Awareness



JANUARY GK TEST - 01

1. _____ became the first university in India to get 'A' grade from the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC):
a. JNU, Delhi
b. University of Delhi
c. Panjab University, Chandigarh
d. GND University, Amritsar
e. Banaras Hindu University
2. Indian Army plans to procure a surface-to-surface ballistic missile _____ that can hit the target from 150 to 500 km:
a. Agni II
b. Prachand
c. Trishul
d. Vinashak
e. Pralay
3. Three more heritage sites from India were added to UNESCO's Tentative List of World Heritage Sites announced on Dec 20. While two of them are from Gujarat, the third, Unakoti Rock-cut Sculptures, is in which state?
a. Tripura
b. Manipur
c. Nagaland
d. Mizoram
e. Meghalaya
4. Government has decided to provide free ration to 81.35 crore poor people under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), up to which date?
a. March 31, 2023
b. June 30, 2023
c. Sep 30, 2023
d. Dec 31, 2023
e. No such announcement
5. As per the revised guidelines for locker operations, locker customers can get up to _____ times the bank charges if the valuables stored in the vaults are ransacked or lost due to fire or building collapse:
a. 10
b. 30
c. 50
d. 100
e. 200
6. Ms. Beth Mead won the BBC Sports Personality of the Year for 2022. She is associated with which sports?
a. Badminton
b. Football
c. Tennis
d. Athletics
e. Gymnastics
7. Who was the first Indian woman to be crowned Miss Universe?
a. Priyanka Chopra
b. Aishwarya Rai
c. Sushmita Sen
d. Zeenat Aman
e. Reita Faria
8. What is the rate of interest paid by the RBI on cash balances maintained with it by scheduled commercial banks under Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)?
a. 1 per cent less than repo rate
b. 1 per cent less than SDF rate
c. 1 per cent less than MSF rate
d. 1 per cent less than bank rate
e. No interest is paid
9. From which city the first ever batch of 200 'AGNIVEERS' selected under the Government of India sponsored AGNIPATH scheme, joined the Indian Army for training?
a. Leh
b. Kargil
c. Patna
d. Srinagar
e. Pune
10. The Union Ministry of Power signed a MoU with DRDO on Dec 27 for implementation of Early Warning System (EWS) for vulnerable Hydro Projects/Power Stations located in which area?
a. Flood prone areas Gangetic Basin
b. Disaster-prone mountainous areas
c. Low lying coastal areas
d. High reaches of Arunachal Pradesh
e. Land-slide prone areas in Uttarakhand
11. TransUnion CIBIL, in collaboration with Online PSB Loans, under the mentorship of SIDBI, launched on Dec 20 the FIT Rank – for what purpose?
a. To support the artisans in North East
b. To support local craftsmen of J&K
c. For ranking of MSME borrowers
d. For ranking of new startups
e. For financial education of women SHGs
12. The Ministry of Railways has formulated a new "_____ Station Scheme" to modernise over 1,000 small stations over the coming years
a. Amrit Bharat
b. Rail Shatak
c. Navratna
d. Amrit Rail
e. Nav-Bharat
13. Government issued a gazette notification on Dec 26 to include which stream of games into multi-sports events?
a. Handball
b. Go-karting
c. e-sports
d. Kalaripayattu
e. Gatka
14. Which of the following bodies releases the Global Financial Stability Report?
a. World Bank

- b. IMF (International Monetary Fund)
c. BIS (Bank for International Settlements)
d. World Economic Forum
e. None of these
15. **RBI maintains 'SACHET' web portal for what purpose?**
a. To control the incidents of unauthorized acceptance of deposits by unscrupulous entities.
b. To help the public in identifying entities authorized by RBI for collection of deposits.
c. To facilitate detection of fraud in the banks
d. Both b and c e. Only a and b
16. **The Indian government handed over the 720 MW Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Power Project to the authorities of which country?**
a. Nepal b. Sri Lanka
c. Myanmar d. Bhutan
e. Afghanistan
17. **The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution launched the Right to _____ Portal on Dec 24 to protect the interests of Indian consumers:**
a. Buy back b. Return
c. Repair d. Defects
e. Service
18. **The Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park is maintained by which state?**
a. Kerala b. Gujarat
c. Andhra Pradesh
d. Tamil Nadu e. Karnataka
19. **Legendary Brazilian footballer Pele passed away at the age of 82. Which of the following statements about him is NOT true?**
a. He scored record 1,281 goals in 1,363 appearances
b. He was named FIFA Player of the Century in 2000
c. He won the Golden Boot for three times
d. He is the only player to have won three FIFA World Cups
e. His formal name was Edson Arantes do Nascimento
20. **The Tamil Nadu government on Dec 28 approved India's first Nilgiri Tahr project for its conservation. Nilgiri Tahr resembles which animal?**
a. Wild Boar b. Wolf
c. Wild Goat d. Fox
e. Nilgai
21. **The Digital Payment Index launched by the RBI has _____ as the base year:**
a. 2017 b. 2018
c. 2019 d. 2020
e. 2021
22. **Kick off, Corner Kick, Throw in, Offside are the terms associated with which of the following sports?**
a. Football b. Hockey
c. Basket Ball d. Base Ball
e. None of these
23. **The Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement, ECTA, between India and _____ came into force from Dec 29:**
a. Japan b. Germany
c. France d. Australia
e. Bangladesh
24. **Which Indian Grand Master won India's first-ever silver medal in the FIDE World Blitz Chess Championships in Almaty, Kazakhstan?**
a. P Harikrishna
b. Koneru Humpy
c. Arjun Erigaisi
d. Vidit Gujarathi
e. D. Gukesh
25. **Government launched Prajwala Challenge on Dec 29 for inviting ideas, solutions and actions to transform the _____ economy:**
a. Coastal b. North East
c. Himalayan d. Rural
e. Urban
26. **The government launched the 'Prahari' Mobile app for which para military force on Dec 29 in New Delhi?**
a. BSF b. ITBP
c. CISF d. CRPF
e. SSB
27. **Croatia bid farewell to its currency _____ on Jan 01 to become the 20th member of the Eurozone:**
a. Tolar b. Kroon
c. Drachma d. Kuna
e. Franc
28. **The 108th annual session of Indian Science Congress, was inaugurated on Jan 3 in which city?**
a. Pune b. Guwahati
c. Cuttack d. Nagpur
e. Prayagraj
29. **Which of the following is not a mobile wallet?**
a. Paytm b. Mobikwik
c. Oxygen d. PhonePe
e. AadharPe
30. **Who publishes the Human Development Index?**
a. United Nations Development Program
b. World Economic Forum
c. UN Sustainable Development Goals
d. The World Bank
e. None of these
31. **Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed an agreement with which state government for a loan of Rs 2,275 crore to strengthen and improve power distribution efficiency in the state?**
a. Bihar b. Kerala
c. Rajasthan d. Tripura
e. Odisha
32. **India took over the leadership of the Asian-Pacific Postal Union (APPU) in January 2023. Its headquarters are located in which city?**
a. Bangkok b. Osaka
c. Hanoi
d. Dhaka
e. Kuala Lumpur
33. **Captain Shiva Chauhan, lady officer from Indian Army became the first woman officer to get operationally deployed at the world's highest battlefield Siachen on January 2. Siachen lies in which mountain range?**
a. Outer Himalayas
b. Pir Panjal
c. Karakoram
d. Saltoro Range
e. Kargil Range
34. **The Union Cabinet approved the Broadcasting Infrastructure and _____ Development Scheme with an outlay of Rs. 2539 crore**

for augmenting broadcasting infrastructure in India:

- a. Communication b. India
c. Signal d. Network
e. Telecasting

35. Which city hosted the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas from January 8-10?

- a. Gwalior b. Jaipur
c. Bhopal d. Udaipur
e. Indore

36. Who became the fastest Indian bowler, registering 155 kph on the speed radar on Jan 03 in the first T20I against Sri Lanka in Mumbai?

- a. Arshdeep Singh
b. Vaibhav Arora
c. Umran Malik
d. Jasprit Bumrah
e. Harshal Patel

37. As per RBI directions, all banks having more than _____ branches, must appoint their Internal Ombudsman:

- a. 10 b. 15
c. 20 d. 25
e. 50

38. Bathukamma floral festival celebrated predominantly by the Hindu women as per Sathavahana calendar for nine days starting Bhadrapada Pournami till Durgashtami, is celebrated in which state?

- a. Odisha b. Telangana
c. Andhra Pradesh
d. Tamil Nadu e. Kerala

39. RBI has decided to retain which three banks as D-SIBs - Domestic Systemically Important Banks for 2021?

- a. PNB, SBI, ICICI Bank
b. HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, SBI
c. HDFC Bank, PNB, SBI
d. HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Axis Bank
e. Axis Bank, SBI, ICICI Bank

40. In a gazette notification issued on Jan 02 by the central government, all listed PSUs have been exempted from the Minimum Public Shareholding of _____ percent:

- a. 10 b. 15
c. 20 d. 25
e. 30

41. Which Indian space start-up launched its space mapping testbed Pushan-alpha successfully on Jan 03 on board the reusable Falcon 9 rocket from Florida, USA?

- a. Agnikul Cosmos
b. Skyroot Aerospace

- c. AstroScale
d. Digantara e. Pixxel

42. India's largest single unit of women Peacekeepers in a UN Mission has been deputed in January 2023 to which country?

- a. Syria b. Greece
c. Turkiye d. Sudan
e. Ethiopia

43. Which state won the UN- Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023 for its "Jaga Mission", world's largest land titling and slum upgrading programme?

- a. Tripura b. Kerala
c. Odisha d. West Bengal
e. Assam

44. World's first palm-leaf manuscript museum with modern audio-visual technology, has been set up in which state?

- a. Manipur b. Assam
c. Bihar d. Jharkhand
e. Kerala

45. Which digital payment system can be used by a person, who has neither a Smartphone nor a basic feature phone?

- a. M-wallet b. USSD
c. AEPS d. UPI
e. IMPS

46. The Orang National Park in Assam, is known by which another formal name?

- a. Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park
b. Indira Gandhi Orang National Park
c. Sangama Orang National Park
d. Jawahar Lal Nehru Orang National Park
e. Mahatma Gandhi Orang National Park

47. M Pranesh, 16-year-old Chess prodigy from _____, became India's 79th Grandmaster on Jan 06:

- a. Kerala b. Maharashtra
c. Tamil Nadu d. Telangana
e. Karnataka

48. The largest hockey stadium in India was inaugurated on Jan 05 in _____, Odisha:

- a. Cuttack b. Bhubaneswar
c. Balasore d. Rourkela
e. Puri

49. RBI launched its medium-term strategy framework titled 'Utkarsh 2.0' on Dec 30 to chalk out its future strategies. Which one of the following is NOT one of them?

- a. To enhance the RBI's statutory and other functions

- b. To strengthen internal operations and governance
c. To proactively confront socio-economic challenges
d. To boost digital and physical infrastructure
e. To strengthen its presence in rural areas

50. The Union Government approved the _____ National Green _____ Mission on Jan 04 with an initial outlay of 19,744 crore rupees:

- a. Transport b. Radiation
c. Solar d. Forest
e. Hydrogen

JANUARY GK TEST - 02

1. Dr. Mohd. Irfan Ali was the chief guest at the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas. He is the President of which country?

- a. Suriname b. Fiji Islands
c. Guyana d. Seychelles
e. Haiti

2. _____ became the first state in the country to go fully digital in its banking service:

- a. Kerala b. Odisha
c. Sikkim d. Assam
e. Uttarakhand

3. The Bharat QR Code is related to which of the following?

- a. Digital payment initiative by the RBI
b. Facts and figures about India
c. Web portal for various mobile wallets
d. Aadhar card based payment system
e. RBI code for regulation of digital payments

4. The Sambhar Salt Lake, India's largest inland Salt Lake, is situated in which of the following states?

- a. Rajasthan b. Gujarat
c. Karnataka d. Kerala
e. Andhra Pradesh

5. Which central public sector enterprise (CPSE) was ranked number one in the services sector in the Public Enterprises Survey 2021-22?

- a. ONGC b. NTPC
c. SAIL d. PGCIL
e. BHEL

6. Five new non-permanent members of the UN Security Council started their two-year term on Jan 01. Which one of the following is NOT one of them?

- a. Ecuador b. Zimbabwe
c. Japan d. Malta
e. Switzerland
7. **January 10 is observed as World Hindi Day. Which country is hosting the 12th World Hindi Conference from February 15 to 17?**
a. Maldives b. Mauritius
c. Fiji d. South Africa
e. Nepal
8. **What is the name of the new light and sound show launched on Jan 10 at the Red Fort in Delhi?**
a. Bharat Gatha b. Jai Bharat
c. Amrit Katha d. Jai Hind
e. Vande Matram
9. **In which US state torrential downpours and damaging winds left hundreds of thousands of homes and businesses without power in the first week of January?**
a. Texas b. Florida
c. California d. Oregon
e. Virginia
10. **In which city Kerala hosted the first Health Working Group meeting under India's G20 presidency from Jan 18 to 20?**
a. Thiruvananthapuram
b. Kochi c. Thrissur
d. Kollam e. Kannur
11. **India celebrates January 12 as the National Youth Day. This year's national level function of the day was held at which place?**
a. Bengaluru b. Gurugram
c. Jaipur d. Hubli-Dharwad
e. Pune
12. **FIH Men's Hockey World Cup 2022 got off to a colourful start on Jan 11 in which city?**
a. Bhubaneswar b. Puri
c. Rourkela d. Cuttack
e. Jamshedpur
13. **Payment Banks are required to invest ____ percent of their demand deposit balances in SLR securities.**
a. 75 b. 22.5
c. 40 d. 50
e. 80
14. **The Cherry Blossom Mao festival is associated with which state?**
a. Mizoram b. Meghalaya
c. Tripura d. Manipur
e. Arunachal
15. **Which film won the Golden Globe for the Best Film in drama category?**
a. Avatar: The Way of Water
b. Elvis c. The Fabelmans
d. Tár
- e. Top Gun: Maverick
16. **What is the name of the world's longest river cruise that was launched from Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh on 13th of January?**
a. Amrit Yatra b. Ganga Vilas
c. Namami Gange
d. Gange Darshan
e. Vaibhav Ganga
17. **In which state Makar Sankranti is popular as Uttarayan?**
a. Gujarat b. Maharashtra
c. Rajasthan d. Madhya Pradesh
e. Karnataka
18. **In a new and unique initiative, India hosted a special virtual summit, the Voice of Global ____ summit, on January 12 and 13:**
a. Nations b. Countries
c. Regions d. South
e. West
19. **The Indian Army celebrates Army Day on Jan 15. The British established Indian Army in which year?**
a. 1790 b. 1818
c. 1858 d. 1878
e. 1895
20. **India's first 'Centre of Excellence' for online gaming is to be set up by March 2023 in which place?**
a. Bengaluru b. Jaipur
c. Mumbai d. Shillong
e. Lucknow
21. **What is the name of the Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV) commissioned into the Indian Coast Guard on Jan 12 in Kolkata, West Bengal?**
a. ICGS Maitree b. ICGS Kamla Devi
c. ICGS Sumitra Devi
d. ICGS Teekshan
e. ICGS Nirvaan
22. **Falak Mumtaz, an 11-year-old girl from Jammu and Kashmir bagged a gold medal in the 23rd National Sqay Championship. Sqay is an event in which of the following?**
a. Boxing b. Running
c. Jumping d. Martial Art
e. Wrestling
23. **The Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Ltd, which provides export credit insurance to Indian exporters, is based in which city?**
a. Gurgaon b. New Delhi
c. Mumbai d. Pune
e. Hyderabad
24. **Hirakud Dam built across the Mahanadi River is one of the first major multipurpose river valley projects built after India's independence. In which state is it situated?**
- a. Andhra Pradesh
b. Chhattisgarh c. Jharkhand
d. Bihar e. Odisha
25. **Bhimbetka rock shelters, an UNESCO heritage archaeological site that spans the prehistoric, Paleolithic and Mesolithic periods, are located in which state?**
a. Gujarat b. Maharashtra
c. Karnataka d. Madhya Pradesh
e. Rajasthan
26. **What is the name of the new project launched on Jan 13 under which India will provide essential medical supplies to any developing country affected by natural disasters or humanitarian crises?**
a. Aapada Mitra b. Aapada Veer
c. Sankat Mochan
d. Aarogya Bandhu
e. Aarogya Maitri
27. **Ms. R'Bonney Gabriel of ____ won the coveted Miss Universe 2022 title on Jan 14 at a ceremony held in New Orleans, USA:**
a. Venezuela b. USA
c. Guatemala d. Canada
e. Colombia
28. **Which district in Kerala became the first constitution literate district in the country?**
a. Idukki b. Kottayam
c. Thrissur d. Kollam
e. Ernakulam
29. **Which media group secured the global media rights for the upcoming Women's IPL T20 League for a whopping Rs 951 crore for five years?**
a. ABP group b. TV Today
c. Viacom 18 d. Zee media
e. Star group
30. **According to an analysis of Central Pollution Control Board data, which was the most polluted city in India in 2022?**
a. Kanpur b. Delhi
c. Ludhiana d. Ghaziabad
e. Faridabad
31. **The Korwa Ordnance Factory to produce 7.62 mm Kalashnikov AK-203 assault rifles in India is in which place in Uttar Pradesh?**
a. Etah b. Korwa
c. Bareilly d. Gorakhpur
e. Banda
32. **Headquarters of Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited are located in which city?**
a. Hyderabad b. Nashik
c. Dewas d. New Delhi

- e. Bengaluru
33. The government has approved the export of which indigenously built supersonic missile in 2022?
- Prithvi
 - Agni
 - Akash
 - BrahMos
 - Pralay
34. The Braille language is based on _____ convex dots that form all the letters and symbols:
- Four
 - Six
 - Eight
 - Ten
 - Fourteen
35. Which corporate group has announced India's biggest plantation drive for planting 10 crore trees by 2030 as part of its commitment to Paris COP 21?
- Reliance
 - TATA
 - Adani
 - L&T
 - Bajaj
36. Gina Lollobrigida, legendary film actress, dubbed as "the most beautiful woman in the world" in the 1950s and '60s, passed away on Jan 16 at the age of 95. She hailed from which country?
- France
 - Italy
 - Spain
 - Greece
 - Ireland
37. Siemens India signed a Rs 26,000-crore contract with Indian Railways to manufacture 1,200 electric freight locomotives of 9000 HP power, in India. Siemens, a global engineering giant, is based in which country?
- Sweden
 - France
 - Spain
 - Germany
 - Netherland
38. Shubman Gill, at 23 years and 132 days, became the youngest batsman to _____ in ODIs:
- Take five catches in an inning
 - Hit a double century
 - Take 7 wickets in an inning
 - Hit nine sixes in a match
 - None of these
39. What was the name of the 21st edition of the Bilateral Naval Exercise between India and France, held from Jan 16 to 20?
- Exercise Viraat
 - Exercise Vyaas
 - Exercise Prahaar

- Exercise Varuna
 - Exercise Samudra
40. The full form of HUF is
- Hindu Undivisible Family
 - Hindu United Family
 - Hindu Undivided Family
 - Hindu Upgraded Family
 - Hindu Unstructured Family
41. Which of the following scientific instruments is used to measure the speed, direction of the wind?
- Altimeter
 - Ammeter
 - Barograph
 - Anemometer
 - Airogauge
42. Which of the following is the only active volcano of India as well as that of South Asia?
- Barren Islands
 - Narcon Point
 - Deccan Traps
 - Mt. Karakatau
 - Mt. Kakatiya
43. Which Indian city has been identified as the World Economic Forum's 18th Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (C4IR)?
- Bengaluru
 - Cuttack
 - Pune
 - Hyderabad
 - Chennai
44. The Global Firepower Report 2023 has ranked India as the 4th most powerful army among the 145 countries ranked by the report. Which country is next to India?
- France
 - Britain
 - Japan
 - South Korea
 - North Korea
45. _____ became the first union territory in India to completely switch to a fully digital method of administration:
- Puducherry
 - Chandigarh
 - J&K
 - Lakshadweep
 - Ladakh
46. Which U-16 team lifted the Vijay Merchant Trophy on Jan 19?
- Punjab
 - Tripura
 - Maharashtra
 - Madhya Pradesh
 - Andhra Pradesh
47. Which Indian corporate joined hands with Ashok Leyland, and Ballard Power, Canada to develop Asia's first hydrogen Fuel Cell

Electric Truck for mining operations?

- Tata Motors
- L&T
- Reliance
- Mahindra
- Adani Enterprises

48) The authorized capital of Regional Rural Banks has been raised to _____ from Rs. 5 crore earlier.

- Rs 50 crore
- Rs 500 crore
- Rs 2,000 crore
- Rs 1,000 crore
- Rs 250 crore

49. Ramnath Goenka Excellence Awards are given in the field of _____.

- Literature
- Sports
- Journalism
- Social service
- Education

50. UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme), an agency of United Nations that works in the field of environment conservation, has its headquarters in which city?

- Nairobi
- Geneva
- Paris
- New York
- Zurich

ANSWER KEY | JANUARY | GK TEST | 1

Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.
1	D	2	E	3	A	4	D	5	D
6	B	7	C	8	E	9	D	10	B
11	C	12	A	13	C	14	B	15	E
16	D	17	C	18	D	19	C	20	C
21	B	22	A	23	D	24	B	25	D
26	A	27	D	28	D	29	E	30	A
31	D	32	A	33	C	34	D	35	E
36	C	37	A	38	B	39	B	40	D
41	D	42	D	43	C	44	E	45	C
46	A	47	C	48	D	49	E	50	E

ANSWER KEY | JANUARY | GK TEST | 2

Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.
1	C	2	A	3	A	4	A	5	D
6	B	7	C	8	D	9	C	10	A
11	D	12	D	13	A	14	D	15	C
16	B	17	A	18	D	19	E	20	D
21	B	22	D	23	C	24	E	25	D
26	E	27	B	28	D	29	C	30	B
31	B	32	D	33	D	34	B	35	C
36	B	37	D	38	B	39	D	40	C
41	D	42	A	43	D	44	B	45	C
46	A	47	E	48	C	49	C	50	A

FULL YEAR GK BYTES

JANUARY 2023

1.	The martyrdom of Mahatma Gandhi on January 30 is observed as which national day in India? Martyrs Day
2.	World Leprosy Day is observed on the ____ Sunday of January: Last, Jan 29 this year
3.	Who was the Chief Guest at this year's Republic Day Parade? Gen. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi
4.	With which country Indian Air Force participated in the Veer Guardian-2023 exercise? Japan
5.	Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar are given by which union ministry? Ministry of home affairs
6.	Odisha State Disaster Management Authority won the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar for which achievement? For providing effective response during various cyclones, saving thousands of lives
7.	The International Customs Day on Jan 26 marks the inauguration of the World Customs Organisation on this day in 1953. It is based in which place? Brussels, Belgium
8.	Custom duty in India is defined under which Act? Customs Act, 1962
9.	Name the renowned architect and educator who was honoured posthumously with the Padma Vibhushan 2023: Balkrishna Doshi
10.	Who is the Abel prize winner pioneer mathematician from USA, who has been honoured with the Padma Vibhushan this year? S R Srinivasa Varadhan
11.	Naat Naatu fame music composer M M Keeravaani has been honoured with which Padma award this year? Padma Shri
12.	National Voters Day on Jan 25 marks which event in history? Establishment of the Election Commission of India
13.	Who is the current Chief Election Commissioner of India? Sh. Rajiv Kumar
14.	India observes National Tourism Day on Jan 25. When is World Tourism Day observed? September 27
15.	Who won the Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy for the ICC Cricketer of the year (men): Babar Azam, Pakistan
16.	Name the veteran modern Indian architect, urban planner and educator who passed away on Jan 24 at the age of 95: Balkrishna Doshi
17.	Nat Sciver, winner of Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy for the ICC Cricketer of the year (women), plays for which country? England
18.	What was the name of the Indian Navy's major maritime exercise that started on Jan 24 in the Indian Ocean? Tropex-23

19.	Aska Police Station in Ganjam district of ____ was ranked as the "Best Police Station" in the country in 2022: Odisha
20.	The RBI extended the deadline for renewal of agreements for the existing safe deposit lockers in a phased manner, maximum by ____ 2023: December 31
21.	The first B20 meet as part of the G20 was held from Jan 22 to 24 in ____, Gujarat: Gandhinagar
22.	President of which country arrived in New Delhi on January 24, on a three-day visit to India? Egypt
23.	UNESCO has dedicated this year's International Day of Education (Jan 24) to all the girls and women in which country? Afghanistan
24.	Which union ministry supports the celebration of National Girl Child Day on Jan 24? Ministry of Women and Child Development
25.	What is the name of the fifth Kalvari class submarine that was commissioned into the Indian Navy on Jan 23? INS Vagir
26.	Which railway station of East Coast Railway received the prestigious 'Green Railway Station Certification' with the highest Platinum rating? Visakhapatnam
27.	The great freedom fighter Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's birth anniversary on Jan 23 is observed as which national day? Parakram Diwas
28.	What was the name of the largest biennial Tri-Services amphibious exercise of Indian Army that was conducted from January 17 to 22? AMPHEX 2023
29.	AMPHEX 2023 was held in which area? In the coastal area near Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh
30.	Who has been named as the new Prime Minister of New Zealand? Chris Hipkins
31.	On the occasion of Parakram Diwas on Jan 23, how many unnamed islands of Andaman-Nicobar were named after the Param Vir Chakra awardees? 21
32.	Who was the first Param Vir Chakra awardee of India? Major Somnath Sharma
33.	Who won the Men's singles title at the Yonex Sunrise India Open Badminton on Jan 22 in New Delhi? Thailand's Kunlavut Vitidsarn
34.	An Se-young of ____ won the women's singles title at the India Open Badminton? South Korea
35.	A tech startup incubated by IIT Madras, JandK Operations Pvt. Ltd. developed India's own mobile operating system. What is its name? BharOS
36.	Captain Harpreet Chandi from ____ set a new world record on Jan 19 for the longest solo, unsupported, and unassisted polar expedition by a woman: England

37.	The first Health Working Group meeting under India's G20 presidency was held from Jan 18 to 20 in which city? Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
38.	Who became the youngest batsman at 23 years and 132 days to hit a double hundred in ODIs? Shubman Gill
39.	Which U-16 team won the Vijay Merchant Trophy in cricket on Jan 19? Punjab U-16
40.	The 53rd edition of the World Economic Forum's (WEF) annual meeting was held from Jan 16 to 20 in ____ in Switzerland: Davos
41.	What was the name of joint operation of the Special Forces contingents of India and Egypt that was held from Jan 14 to 27? Exercise Cyclone-I
42.	Exercise Cyclone-I was held at which place in Rajasthan? Jaisalmer
43.	____ became the first UT in India to completely switch to a digital method of administration: Jammu & Kashmir
44.	As per the Global 500-report released on Jan 18 2023, ____ was ranked as the "most valuable brand" in the world: Amazon
45.	India hosted Bilateral Naval Exercise Varuna from Jan 16 to 20 with which country? France
46.	Exercise Varuna was held in which area? Arabian Sea
47.	Gina Lollobrigida, legendary film actress, dubbed as "the most beautiful woman in the world" in 1950s and '60s, passed away on Jan 16. She was from which country? Italy
48.	Which Indian corporate has announced to plant 10 crore trees by 2030 as part of its commitment to Paris COP 21? Adani group
49.	Which ordnance factory started the production of AK-203 in India? Korwa Ordnance Factory
50.	Which country has provided technical support for producing AK-203 in India? Russia
51.	What is the effective strike range of AK-203 assault rifle? Up to 800 metres
52.	Korwa Ordnance Factory is located in which place? Korwa near Amethi
53.	India celebrates National Startup Day on which day of January? 16th
54.	What is the name of the India's first national assessment regulator notified by the NCERT? PARAKH
55.	What is the expansion of the acronym PARAKH? Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic development
56.	Indian subsidiary of which German engineering giant signed a Rs 26,000-crore contract with Indian Railways? Siemens AG
57.	Siemens India signed this contract for what purpose? To manufacture 1,200 electric freight locomotives in India
58.	The Global Firepower Report 2023 has ranked India as the ____ most powerful army among the 145 countries: Fourth
59.	Which corporate joined hands with Ashok Leyland, and Ballard Power, Canada to develop Asia's first hydrogen Fuel Cell Electric Truck (FCET) for mining operations? Adani enterprises
60.	Which Indian city has been identified as the World Economic Forum's 18th Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution? Hyderabad

61.	Army Day on Jan 15 marks which historical event in the history of Indian Army? Taking over of command of the Indian Army by the first Indian, Lt Gen K M Cariappa
62.	Yuki Bhambri and ____ Myneni, top seeded Indian tennis champs won the Bangkok Open title on Jan 15? Saketh
63.	India scripted history on Jan 15 by defeating ____ by the largest ever margin (in the world) of 317 runs: Sri Lanka
64.	Festival of Makar Sankranti is celebrated in Gujarat by which popular name? Uttarayan
65.	In which part of India festival of Makar Sankranti is celebrated as Pedda Panduga? Andhra Pradesh, Telangana
66.	India celebrates the Armed Forces Veterans Day on January 14 to mark the retirement of one of its great generals on this day in 1953. Who was he? Field Marshal KM Cariappa
67.	Which media group secured the global media rights for the upcoming Women's IPL T20 League for a whopping Rs 951 crore for five years? Viacom 18
68.	Europe's first orbital launch site in the European mainland was inaugurated on Jan 13 in Esrange Space Centre near Kiruna in which country? Sweden
69.	Beauty Queen of which country won the Miss Universe 2022? USA
70.	Who has been crowned Miss Universe 2022? R'Bonney Gabriel
71.	India hosted a special virtual summit, the Voice of Global ____ summit, on January 12 and 13: South
72.	What was the theme of the Voice of Global South summit? Unity of Voice, Unity of Purpose
73.	World's longest river cruise 'MV Ganga Vilas' was launched from which place on Jan 13? Varanasi
74.	The 51-day journey of river cruise 'MV Ganga Vilas' will end at which place? Dibrugarh, Assam
75.	Name the seven-time Lok Sabha MP and a four-term Rajya Sabha MP, founder president of Janta Dal, who passed away on Jan 12: Sharad Yadav
76.	Which country imposed a total ban on smoking in public places that includes parks, beaches, hotels, offices and restaurants? Mexico
77.	India announced which project on Jan 13 to provide essential medical supplies to any developing country affected by natural disasters or humanitarian crisis? Aarogya Maitri
78.	Falak Mumtaz, an 11-year-old girl from ____ bagged a gold medal in the 23rd National Sqay Championship: Jammu and Kashmir
79.	Who won the men's singles title in the Malaysia Open Super 1000 at Kuala Lumpur? Viktor Axelsen
80.	What type of vessel is ICGS Kamla Devi that was commissioned in the Indian Coast Guard on Jan 12? Fast Patrol Vessel
81.	National Youth Day on Jan 12 marks the birthday of which great person? Swami Vivekananda
82.	What was the theme of this year's National Youth Day? Viksit Yuva - Viksit Bharat
83.	FIH Men's Hockey World Cup 2022 got off to a colourful start on Jan 11 in which stadium in Cuttack? Barabati Stadium

84.	India's first and largest 3x platform wind turbine generators (WTGs) has been installed at Gadag in which state? Karnataka
85.	Which film won the Golden Globe for the Best Film-Drama? The Fabelmans
86.	Steven Spielberg won the Golden Globe for Best Director for which film? The Fabelmans
87.	According to the latest Henley Passport Index, released on Jan 10, what was India's rank? 85th
88.	What is the name of the new light and sound show launched on Jan 10 at the Red Fort in Delhi? Jai Hind
89.	World Hindi Day is observed on Jan 10 to mark the anniversary of the first World Hindi Conference which was held on this day in____, Maharashtra in 1975: Nagpur
90.	Tenure of which Deputy Governor of the RBI has been extended for one more year? Dr M. Debabrata Patra
91.	Indian film RRR's super hit song "Naatu Naatu" won the prestigious Golden Globe award in which category? Best Original Song
92.	According to a Nikkei Asia report published on Jan 6, India ranked as ____ largest automobile seller: Third
93.	India's first 'Centre of Excellence' for online gaming is to be set up in _____, Meghalaya by March 2023: Shillong
94.	What is the name of the India's first 5G-enabled drone developed by IG Drones from Odisha? Skyhawk
95.	Which district in Kerala became India's first constitution literate district? Kollam
96.	India celebrates the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas on which day of January? 9th
97.	____ hosted the 17 th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas from January 8-10: Indore, Madhya Pradesh
98.	Ms. ____ Singh, won the girls' Under-15 squash title on Jan 08 at the most prestigious British Junior Open tournament in UK: Anahat
99.	Keshari Nath Tripathi, a former Governor of ____ (2014-19) died at his Prayagraj home in Uttar Pradesh on Jan 08: West Bengal
100.	____ became the first state in the country to go fully digital in its banking service: Kerala
101.	According to an analysis of Central Pollution Control Board data, ____ was the most polluted city in India in 2022: Delhi
102.	Torrential downpours and damaging winds left hundreds of thousands of homes and businesses without power in which state of USA in the first week of January? California
103.	Which part of Australia was devastated by one of the worst floods in the history, in first week of January? Kimberley
104.	The largest hockey stadium in India was inaugurated on Jan 05 in which city? Rourkela
105.	What is the name of the India's largest hockey stadium? Birsa Munda International Hockey Stadium
106.	M Pranesh, 16 year old Chess prodigy from _____, became India's 79 th Grandmaster on Jan 06: Tamil Nadu
107.	According to National Statistical Office (NSO) data released on Jan 06, the real GDP during FY 2022-23 is estimated to grow at what rate? 7%
108.	World's first palm-leaf manuscript museum with modern audio-visual technology has been set up at which place? Thiruvananthapuram

109.	Which state won the UN- Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023 for its Jaga mission, world's largest land titling and slum upgrading programme? Odisha
110.	India deployed a platoon of women peacekeepers to the UN Mission in which country? Sudan
111.	World Day of War Orphans is observed on which day of January? 6th
112.	The Union Cabinet approved the National Green ____ Mission on 04 Jan with an initial outlay of 19,744 crore rupees: Hydrogen
113.	The Union Cabinet approved the Broadcasting ____ and Network Development Scheme on Jan 04 with an outlay of Rs. 2539 crore: Infrastructure
114.	World Braille Day on Jan 04 marks the birthday of Louis Braille. He hailed from which country? France
115.	Braille language is based on ____ convex embossed dots that form all the letters and symbols: Six
116.	The 108 th annual session of ISC- Indian Science Congress, was inaugurated on Jan 3 in which city? Nagpur
117.	The focal theme of this year's ISC is Science and Technology for Sustainable Development with ____ Empowerment: Women
118.	Which Indian space startup launched its space mapping testbed Pushan-alpha successfully on Jan 03? Digantara Research and Technologies
119.	Pushan-alpha was launched onboard which rocket? Falcon 9
120.	Which country launched Asia's first hydrogen powered train on Dec 28 for the Urban Railways? China
121.	ADB approved a loan of Rs 2,275 crore to Tripura government to strengthen and improve ____: Power distribution
122.	Captain ____ Chauhan became the first lady officer to be deployed at the world's highest battlefield, Siachen: Shiva
123.	Siachen Glacier lies in which range of Himalayas? Karakoram
124.	Which central public sector enterprise (CPSE) was ranked number one in the services sector in the Public Enterprises Survey 2021-22? Powergrid Corporation of India Ltd
125.	Five new non-permanent members of the UN Security Council started their ____ year term on Jan 01,2023: Two
126.	As per SEBI guidelines, every listed company has to allocate at least ____ % of its shares to general public: 25
127.	As per the gazette notification dt Jan 02 by the central government, ____ have been exempted from the Minimum Public Shareholding norm of 25%: Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs)
128.	Which country has been selected to head the Asian-Pacific Postal Union (APPU)? India
129.	Headquarters of APPU are located in which city? Bangkok, Thailand
130.	RBI has decided to retain SBI, ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank as D-SIBs for 2021. What is D-SIB? Domestic Systemically Important Banks
131.	Ajay Kumar Srivastava was appointed as the MD and CEO of which Bank wef January 1, 2023? Indian Overseas Bank

132.	Which union ministry launched 'SMART' (Scope for Mainstreaming Ayurveda Research in Teaching Professionals) programme? Ministry of Ayush
133.	RBI launched its medium-term strategy framework titled '_____' on Dec 30 to enhance its effectiveness: Utkarsh 2.0
134.	What is the time frame for the Utkarsh 2.0? 2023-25
135.	Who became the fastest Indian bowler on Jan 03 surpassing Jasprit Bumrah's record for 153.6 kph? Umran Malik
136.	Koustav _____ became India's 78 th Grand Master on Dec 31: Chatterjee
137.	Which country became the 20 th member of the Eurozone by adopting Euro as its currency? Croatia
138.	_____ became the first state in the country to bring the chief minister and council of ministers under the ambit of the Lokayukta: Maharashtra
139.	Who became the first person ever in the world to lose over \$200 billion (Rs 16.5 lakh crore) from his peak net worth, within a year? Elon Musk
140.	Name the Supreme Catholic leader, Pope Emeritus, who breathed his last on Dec 31 at the age of 95: Pope Benedict XVI
141.	The Islamist terror outfit declared on Dec 31 the formation of its new parallel government in Pakistan? Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan
142.	The government launched the 'Prahari' Mobile app on Dec 29 in New Delhi for which armed police force? Border Security Force (BSF)
143.	The Rural Development Ministry launched Prajwala Challenge on Dec 29 for inviting ideas, solutions and actions on which topic? To transform the rural economy
144.	Who became the first-ever Indian Grand Master to win a silver medal in the FIDE World Blitz Chess Championships in Almaty, Kazakhstan? Koneru Humpy
145.	India, _____ Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement, ECTA, came into force from Dec 29: Australia
146.	Which state approved India's first Nilgiri Tahr project with a layout of Rs. 25.14 crore? Tamil Nadu
147.	What type of animal is Nilgiri Tahr? A wild animal resembling a wild goat
148.	Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mother passed away at the age of 99 years on Dec 30. What is her name? Heeraben Modi
149.	Pele, legendary Brazilian footballer passed away at the age of 82, losing his fight against cancer. What was his formal name? Edson Arantes do Nascimento
150.	Indian Air Force successfully tested the Extended Range Version of BrahMos Air Launched Missile on Dec 29 from which aircraft? Sukhoi SU-30MKI
151.	_____ became the first Indian company to get DGCA Type Certification from the Director General of Civil Aviation on Dec 28: Marut Drone, Hyderabad
152.	Which state launched a project to tackle the ghost net and marine debris problem in the Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park? Tamil Nadu
153.	Which ministry launched the Right to Repair Portal on Dec 24 to protect the interests of Indian consumers? Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution

154.	The Indian government handed over the 720 MW Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Power Project to which country? Bhutan
155.	The Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Power Project has been constructed on which river? Mangdechhu
156.	The Dharmadam assembly constituency in _____ has achieved the milestone of the first complete library constituency in India: Kerala
DECEMBER 2022	
1.	Government has decided to provide free ration to 81.35 crore poor people under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) till what time? December 31, 2023
2.	The revised guidelines for locker operations that were first released by RBI on 08 August 2021, are being implemented now from which date? Jan 01, 2023
3.	Government has extended Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY) till what date? Not extended beyond Dec 31, 2022
4.	What was the name of the 16 th edition of Indo-Nepal joint training exercise held from Dec 16 to 29? Exercise Surya Kiran-XVI
5.	Exercise Surya Kiran-XVI was held at which place? Saljhandi, Nepal
6.	The 6 th edition of India - Kazakhstan joint training exercise was conducted at Umroi in which state? Meghalaya
7.	What was the name of the 6 th edition of India - Kazakhstan joint training exercise? Kazind-22
8.	The Union Ministry of Power signed a MoU with _____ on Dec 27 for implementation of Early Warning System (EWS) for vulnerable Hydro Projects/Power Stations located in disaster-prone mountainous regions: DRDO
9.	Which agency of DRDO will develop and implement this Early Warning System? Defence Geo-informatics Research Establishment
10.	The government issued a gazette notification on Dec 26 to officially recognise which stream of sports to be part of regular sports competitions in the country? e-sports (video games)
11.	Government has decided to celebrate December _____ as Veer Bal Diwas to commemorate the martyrdom of two Sahibzadas of Sri Guru Gobind Singh: 26
12.	What were the names of the two Sahibzadas of Sri Guru Gobind Singh? Baba Zorawar Singh (9) and Baba Fateh Singh (7)
13.	What is the name of the holy Gurudwara built at the place where the wall in which two Sahibzadas were bricked alive, is located? Bhora Sahib, Sirhind, Punjab
14.	The first ever batch of 'AGNIVEERS' selected under the AGNIPATH scheme joined the Indian Army for training in last week of December from which area? Srinagar, J&K
15.	The Ministry of Railways has formulated a new "_____" Station Scheme" to modernise over 1,000 small stations: Amrit Bharat
16.	Who has been appointed as the Prime Minister of Nepal by the President Bidhya Devi Bhandari? Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda'

17.	Which country suffered massive disruptions due to attack of Arctic Bomb Cyclone in fourth week of December? USA
18.	Good Governance Day on December 25 commemorates the birthday of which great leader? Bharat Ratna Sh. Atal Bihari Vajpayee
19.	Who has been selected as the "BBC Sports Personality of the Year for 2022"? Ms. Beth Mead
20.	Ms. Beth Mead is associated with which sports? Football
21.	Ms. Beth Mead is from which country? England
22.	India celebrates the National Consumer Day on which day of December? 24th
23.	Buddhist people from which place celebrate their new year on Dec 24 as Losar Festival? Ladakh
24.	India's longest (12.89 km) escape tunnel was completed on Dec 23 on which section of railway? Katra Banihal section in J&K
25.	_____, 7 year old boy won the Top Arena Junior (Boys) International Badminton Championship title on December 23 in the below 9 years category, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: Geto Sora
26.	Geto Sora hails from which state? Arunachal Pradesh
27.	National Farmers' Day (Kisan Diwas) on Dec 23 commemorates the birthday of which great kisan leader? Chaudhary Charan Singh
28.	The ISRO successfully operated its CE-20 _____ rocket engine on December 23: Cryogenic
29.	The Cryogenic Main Engine & Stage Test Facility at ISRO Propulsion Complex is located in which place? Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu
30.	Birthday of which great Mathematician on Dec 22 is observed as National Mathematics Day? Srinivasa Ramanujan
31.	Which university in South India awards a special \$10,000 prize annually in honour of Srinivasa Ramanujan? SASTRA university, Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu
32.	NASA retired its Mars _____ lander on Dec 21, as its batteries ran out of energy: InSight
33.	The UN Security Council adopted its first ever resolution on _____ in 74 years on Dec 21 to demand an end to violence in that country: Myanmar
34.	The Indian Gas Exchange (IGX) launched an index named _____ that will reflect prevailing gas prices: GIXI
35.	Which corporate agreed to buy German firm Metro AG's wholesale operations in India for Rs 2,850 crore? Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd.
36.	How many heritage sites from India were added to UNESCO's Tentative List of World Heritage Sites announced on Dec 20? Three
37.	One of these three sites, Rock-cut Sculptures and Reliefs of the Unakoti, is in which state? Tripura
38.	What is the name of India's first ASW SWC (Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft) which joined Indian Navy on Dec 20? INS Arnala
39.	Which tournament has become India's first sports decacorn as its latest valuation crossed \$ 10 billion? IPL - Indian Premier League
40.	Which apex agency released the Social Progress Index report for States and Districts of India on Dec 20? The

	Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister (EAC-PM)
41.	Which state topped the Social Progress Index report for States and Districts of India, released on Dec 20? Puducherry
42.	Which company in collaboration with Online PSB Loans, launched on Dec 20 the FIT Rank? TransUnion CIBIL
43.	What is the purpose of FIT rank? Credit rating of MSMEs
44.	FIT Rank has been launched under mentorship of which financial institution? SIDBI
45.	What is the expansion of FIT? Financial, Income, and Trade data
46.	Indian Army plans to procure the surface-to-surface ballistic missile _____ that can hit the target from 150 to 500 km: Pralay
47.	National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has granted A grade to only one university. What is its name? Guru Nanak Dev University (GNDU), Amritsar
48.	Name the senior nuclear scientist who has been appointed as the chairperson of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board: Dinesh Kumar Shukla
49.	The country's first infantry museum was inaugurated in Mhow cantonment in which state? Madhya Pradesh
50.	Which international day on Dec 20 aims to promote cultural equality and social justice to bring social development? International Human Solidarity Day
51.	What is the name of the fifth scorpene-class submarine that was delivered to the Indian Navy on Dec 20 in Mumbai? Vagir
52.	Submarine Vagir has been built indigenously by which firm? Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd., Mumbai
53.	The 39 th edition of India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol of navies was conducted at which place from 08 - 19 December? East of Andaman Sea
54.	Who became the world's most written-about athlete in 2022, attracting 812 articles? Neeraj Chopra
55.	Which Canadian city hosted the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), also called the Conference of Parties (COP-15), from Dec 7 to 19? Montreal
56.	France lost the FIFA World Cup in penalty shootout. Who was the captain of French team? Hugo Lloris
57.	Which footballer won the FIFA Golden Glove for saving highest, 8 goals in the World Cup? Emiliano Martinez, Argentina
58.	Who was declared the "Young Player of the Tournament" in the FIFA World Cup 2022? Enzo Fernandez, Argentina
59.	Which day of December is celebrated as International Migrants Day? 18th
60.	India celebrates Minorities Rights Day on Dec 18. Who is the chairman of the National Commission for Minorities? Sardar Iqbal Singh Lalpura
61.	INS Mormugao was commissioned on Dec 18 into the Indian Navy in Mumbai. What type of ship is it? Stealth-guided missile destroyer warship
62.	Indian-origin politician Leo Varadkar has been elected second time as the Prime Minister of which European country? Ireland

63.	Achieving substantial growth in publication of scientific papers, India secured ____ rank in the world in this regard: Third
64.	Which country leads the world in the publication of the scientific papers, followed by the USA? China
65.	Which teenaged beauty from Gurugram, Haryana, won the first Miss Eco Teen Pageant held at Marsa Alam, Egypt? Cherisha Chanda
66.	Name the beauty queen from Jammu who scripted history on Dec 18 as she won the "Mrs. World 2022" title: Sargam Koushal
67.	Indian team won the T20 World Cup for the Blind by defeating which country? Bangladesh
68.	Finals of the T20 World Cup for the Blind was held in which city? Bengaluru
69.	The Indian team led by Savita Punia defeated ____ 1-0 in the finals to lift the FIH Women's Nations Cup 2022: Spain
70.	India celebrates Vijay Diwas on Dec 16 to mark Indian forces victory in which war? 1971 Indo Pak war
71.	Which country launched a 'Group of Friends' on Dec 15 to promote accountability for crimes against UN peacekeepers? India
72.	The DRDO successfully tested ballistic missile Agni V on 15 December. What is its strike range? 5,000 km
73.	Which city hosted the first G20 Finance and Central Bank Deputies (FCBD) summit from 13 to 15 December? Bengaluru
74.	Which city will host the first G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting on Feb 23-25, 2023? Bengaluru
75.	India received its ____ and final Rafale fighter jet from France on Dec 15, completing the delivery of all the aircrafts it had signed for: 36th
76.	The 5 th edition of Youth Co:Lab, Asia Pacific's largest youth ____ movement was launched on December 15 in New Delhi: Innovation
77.	Who won the International Tennis Federation's world champion award for men and women, respectively, on Dec 15 in London? Rafael Nadal and Iga Swiatek
78.	The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has implemented a dedicated "Scheme of Development of PVTGs. What is expansion of PVTGs? Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups
79.	There are how many PVTGs recognised by the central government? 75
80.	Ms. Mette Frederiksen has been re-elected as the Prime Minister of which Scandinavian country? Denmark
81.	A statue (bust) of Mahatma Gandhi was unveiled by India's Foreign Minister S Jaishankar on Dec 14 at which global organisation? UNO, New York
82.	The UN Economic and Social Council ousted which country on Dec 14 from the Commission on the Status of Women? Iran
83.	Why Iran was ousted from the Commission on the Status of Women? For its continued violation of the rights of women and girls
84.	Large number of Iranians are protesting for past three months on which issue? Against compulsion of wearing hijab by women

85.	Which apex agency in India supports the celebration of the National Energy Conservation Day on Dec. 14? Bureau of Energy Efficiency
86.	Who slipped to second position on Dec 14 after holding the numero uno position as the richest person in world since September 2021: Elon Musk
87.	The EIU has rated which city as the most expensive city to live in among the 172 featured in the Worldwide Cost of Living survey? Singapore
88.	Which apex global organisation released the Global Trade Update on 13 December? UNCTAD
89.	What is the full form of UNCTAD? United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
90.	Who is the current Secretary General of UNCTAD? Ms. Rebeca Grynspan of Costa Rica
91.	Which big corporate group has announced to shut down its cement plants at Barmana (ACC) and Darlaghat (Ambuja)? Adani group
92.	These two cement plants are in which state? Himachal Pradesh
93.	Which popular Bollywood actress has been named PETA's Person of the Year? Sonakshi Sinha
94.	What is the full form of the acronym PETA? People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals
95.	PETA is a multinational NGO based in ____: Norfolk, Virginia (USA)
96.	Which corporate signed a MoU with Hockey India on Dec 13 to become the 'official partner' of the 15th FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023? Tata Steel Limited
97.	Which Indian state is facing the problem of influx of Kuki-Chin tribals? Mizoram
98.	Kuki-Chin tribals are crossing over to India from which country? Bangladesh
99.	World's first tea estate was established in 1839 at which place in India? Assam
100.	Which country passed a law on Dec 13 banning cigarettes for future generations in the country? New Zealand
101.	Name the Polish tennis star who was selected as the WTA Player of the Year-2022 for the first time on Dec 12: Iga Swiatek
102.	The Parliament passed the Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill, 2022 on Dec 12. What is its main aim? To promote energy efficiency and conservation
103.	Which Gujarat BJP leader was sworn in as the 18th Chief Minister of Gujarat on Dec 12? Bhupendra Patel
104.	International Universal Health Coverage Day is observed on which day of December? 12th
105.	National Commission for Protection of Child Rights developed and launched a portal 'GHAR' for what purpose? To improve restoration and repatriation of children
106.	What is the full form of the acronym GHAR? Go Home And Re-unite
107.	Which group of countries has decided to establish a Climate Club open to all countries for fight against global warming? G-7
108.	Which country hosted the 8th Junior Wushu World Championship from Dec 3 to 11? Indonesia
109.	Which international day is observed on Dec 11 with support from UNO to encourage sustainable

	development in mountains all over the world? International Mountain Day
110.	December 11 is observed as the UNICEF Day. It was established in which year? 1946
111.	UNICEF is based in which city? New York
112.	NASA successfully bought home its spacecraft ____ on Dec 11 after a near-26-day mission to orbit the Moon: Orion
113.	Who smashed the fastest double hundred in the history of ODI cricket, scoring 210 off 131 balls on Dec 10? Ishan Kishan, India
114.	Which country announced a nuclear fusion breakthrough, achieved for the first time in history? USA
115.	What is the major benefit of achieving the nuclear fusion? It will produce 'near-limitless' clean energy
116.	The Airawat Division of the Indian Army conducted Exercise Sanchaar Bodh on Dec 10 for what purpose? To validate its tactical communication capabilities
117.	Exercise Sanchaar Bodh was held at which place? In Punjab
118.	Which day of December is observed world over as the Human Rights Day? 10th
119.	Who is the current chairman of the National Human Rights Commission? Justice (retd) Arun Kumar Mishra
120.	Which tropical cyclonic storm made a landfall near Mamallapuram in North Tamil Nadu on Dec 10? Cyclone Mandous
121.	Prime Minister of _____ was appointed as the "Global Ambassador for Diabetes" by the International Diabetic Federation: Bangladesh
122.	Which Indian player won the BWF Female Para-Badminton Player of the Year 2022 title? Manisha Ramadass
123.	Who was declared BWF Male Player of the Year 2022? Viktor Axelsen (Denmark)
124.	Akane _____ of Japan was declared BWF Female Player of the Year 2022: Yamaguchi
125.	India celebrates December 09 as National Submarine Day to mark the induction of first submarine in Indian Navy. What was its name? INS Kalvari
126.	A seed farm in Aluva was declared as the first carbon neutral farm in the country. It is in which state? Kerala
127.	The Union government has infused about ₹5,000 crore in SWAMIH Investment Fund I. What is the purpose of this fund? To support RERA approved stressed residential projects
128.	_____ has become the first state to start its own climate change mission, headed by the Chief Minister himself: Tamil Nadu
129.	Who is the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu? M K Stalin
130.	Which international day is observed every year on Dec 09 with UN support to spread awareness against corruption? International Anti-Corruption Day
131.	The ADB has approved a \$780 million loan to build new lines and improve the connectivity of _____ metro rail system: Chennai
132.	N Chandrasekaran has been chosen to lead B20 India, the group that represents the G20 business community. He is chairman of which corporate house? Tata Sons

133.	The first blow down test of the newly released Trisonic ____ Tunnel was conducted by ISRO on 8th December at Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre: Wind
134.	The Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre is in which place? Thiruvananthapuram
135.	Who has been sworn in as the new Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh? Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu
136.	Vikram Doraiswami, Indian High Commissioner to the UK was in news recently, for what reason? He became the first Indian diplomat to present his credentials to King Charles III on Dec 8
137.	The FAO organised opening ceremony for the International Year of Millets - 2023 at which place? Rome, Italy
138.	In India, millets are primarily a crop of ____ season: Kharif
139.	Which was the most searched item as per the Google's 'Year in Search 2022' results for Indian users released on Dec 06? IPL - Indian Premier League
140.	The RBI announced on Dec 7 to add a new functionality — "single block and multiple debits" in which system? UPI - Unified Payments Interface
141.	Which organisation has developed and manages UPI? NPCI - National Payments Corporation of India
142.	The aerospace giant of the USA, The Boeing Co rolled out its last ____ aircraft on Dec 07: 747
143.	Who has been appointed as the Chairman of the NABARD? K V Shaji
144.	RBI hiked which key policy rate to 6.25% on Dec 07? Repo Rate
145.	What will be the impact of hike in repo rate on the loan EMIs? They will go up or down? Up
146.	ICAO supports the celebration of International Civil Aviation Day on Dec 7. What is ICAO? International Civil Aviation Organisation
147.	Where are the headquarters of ICAO? Montreal, Canada
148.	Armed Forces Flag Day is observed on Dec 7 to raise funds for the welfare of which community? Ex-servcemen
149.	Researchers at IIT _____ have developed and deployed a system that could generate electricity using energy from sea waves: Madras
150.	System Sindhuja-I is associated with which field? Generating electricity using energy from sea waves
151.	Who became the first Indian, and just the second batter world-wide, in international cricket to hit 500 sixes? Rohit Sharma
152.	Who is the only batsman to smash the highest ever, 533 sixes? Chris Gayle, West Indies
153.	_____ Mittal, 16 year old Chess star from Maharashtra became the 77th Grandmaster on Dec 06: Aditya
154.	Passport Index 2022 published by the Arton Capital, placed which country at the top? UAE
155.	India was placed at which rank in the Passport Index 2022? 87th
156.	Who has been named as "TIME 2022 Person of the Year" by the New York based global news magazine TIME? Volodymyr Zelenskyy, President of Ukraine
157.	Dina Boluarte assumed office as the first female President of which country in South America? Peru

158.	BBC's list of 100 most influential women in the world, includes 4 Indian women. One among them, Sneha Jawale is associated with which field? Social work
159.	The 19th annual Forbes list of the "World's 100 Most Powerful Women" released on Dec 06 placed Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman at which spot? 36th
160.	Which country was placed at top in the 11th Global Food Security Index, 2022? Finland
161.	What was India's rank in this index? 68th
162.	Name the renowned economist, academician, a former Union minister and member of the erstwhile Planning commission, who died at his home in Ahmedabad on Dec 06: Prof Yoginder K Alagh
163.	Forbes Asia's Heroes of Philanthropy list released on Dec 05 ranked _____ as the top donor in Asia: Gautam Adani
164.	World Athletics declared _____ as the World Athlete (women) of the Year 2022 on Dec 05: Sydney McLaughlin
165.	Sydney McLaughlin (USA) is the new world champion in which event? 400 mt hurdles
166.	Who was declared the World Athlete (men) of the Year 2022? Armand Duplantis
167.	Armand Duplantis is the current world record holder in which event? Pole vault
168.	Duplantis represents which country in athletics? Sweden
169.	What is the theme of this year's International Volunteer Day observed on Dec 5? Solidarity through Volunteering
170.	The first real-time Gold ATM of the world was inaugurated on Dec 05 in which place? Hyderabad
171.	_____ has been chosen as the Oxford Word of the Year on Dec 05, after securing 93% votes: Goblin mode
172.	Which day of December is observed as World Soil Day? 5th
173.	Which Indian corporate became the "world's largest wind-solar hybrid power developer" with an operational capacity of 1,440 MW? Adani Green Energy Ltd.
174.	The first G20 Sherpa Meeting under India's Presidency, was held in _____ from 4 to 7 December: Udaipur, Rajasthan
175.	Who is India's Sherpa for the current G-20 Summit? Amitabh Kant
176.	Name the highest volcano in Indonesia's main island Java which erupted violently on Dec 04: Mount Semeru
177.	Name the bestselling French author, well-known for his book "The City of Joy (1985)", who died on Dec 4: Dominique Lapierre
178.	Novel "The City of Joy" is based on which Indian city? Kolkata
179.	Which Indian state hosts the famous International Lusophone Festival? Goa
180.	Lusophone Festival is associated with which international community? Portuguese
181.	What is the general meaning of word Lusophone in English? A person speaking Portuguese
182.	December 4 is observed as International Day of Banks. The Bank for International Settlements is based at which place? Basel, Switzerland

183.	The Indian Navy Day on December 4 commemorates victory of which operation in 1971 Indo-Pak war? Operation Trident
184.	Operation Trident was conducted in which area? In Arabian Sea, south of Pakistan
185.	Which space agency successfully used for the first time, steam to propel a spacecraft toward the Moon? JAXA - Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency
186.	Renowned British aircraft engine maker _____ and British low-cost air carrier easyJet, successfully tested a hydrogen-powered jet engine: Rolls-Royce
187.	The International Day of Persons with Disabilities is observed on _____ of December: 3rd
188.	The US Air Force unveiled on Dec 2 its newest most advanced military aircraft ever built. What is its name? B-21 Raider
189.	Which US company builds the B-21 Raider aircraft? Northrop Grumman
190.	Observance of the National Pollution Control Day on Dec 2 is associated with which horrific industrial disaster? 1984 Bhopal Gas Tragedy
191.	Leakage of which highly poisonous gas caused the 1984 Bhopal Gas Tragedy? Methyl Isocyanate - MIC
192.	Which international day is observed on Dec 2 to spread awareness about ending human trafficking and the exploitation of humans: International Day for Abolition of Slavery
193.	World Computer Literacy Day is observed on Dec 2. Which Indian IT company started this event in 2001? NIIT - National Institute of Information Technology, Gurugram, Haryana
194.	Spocto Innovation Lab (SIL), launched recently as a debt support and risk mitigation platform, will help the banks in which manner? Best handling of NPAs with tech support
195.	The first Silchar-Sylhet Festival was held on Dec 2-3 in which place? Silchar, Assam
196.	What is the main theme of the Silchar-Sylhet Festival? Celebrating close cultural ties with Bangladesh
197.	This December, Bangladesh is celebrating _____ years its liberation from Pakistan: 51
198.	The aviation safety rankings released by the International Civil Aviation Organization, placed which country at the top? Singapore
199.	What was India's ranking in in terms of Aviation safety rankings released by ICAO? 48th
200.	Who has been appointed Chairperson of the National Commission for Backward Classes? Hansraj Gangaram Ahir
201.	Which Metro established a Guinness World Record by building the longest, 3,140 meters long double-decker viaduct, supported on a single column? Nagpur Metro
202.	Who has been named captain of India's 15-member squad for the ICC U-19 Women's T20 World Cup? Shafali Verma
203.	Which country shall be hosting ICC U-19 Women's T20 World Cup, from January 14 to 29, 2023? South Africa
204.	Vijay Hazare Trophy is associate with which sports? Cricket
205.	Which team lifted the Vijay Hazare Trophy 2022? Saurashtra

206.	Vijay Hazare Trophy is played in which format of cricket? ODI
207.	What was the name of the joint exercise between Indian Navy MARCOs and US Navy SEALs which commenced in Goa on Dec 01? Exercise Sangam
208.	Government has announced formation of which administrative service for railways on pattern of IAS? Indian Railway Management Service, IRMS
209.	Ms. Stéphanie Frappart, the 38 year old French football referee was in news recently for what reason? She became the first woman to take charge of a men's World Cup game on Dec 01
210.	The government launched DigiYatra app based on facial recognition technology on Dec 01 for which segment of travellers? Air travellers
211.	In which area the government has named 21 uninhabited islands after recipients of Param Vir Chakra? Andaman & Nicobar
212.	Which bank won the top award on Dec 01 for the India segment at the Global Banking Summit held in London? Canara Bank
213.	The RBI launched the retail digital _____ on Dec 01 on a pilot basis: Rupee
214.	India took over the rotating Presidency of the 15-nation UN Security Council recently, for which month? December
215.	Which Indian startup won the one million pound Earthshot Prize in the "Protect and Restore Nature" category, in London? Kheyti from Telangana
216.	Shooter _____ Patil clinched the gold on Dec 02 in the 10 mt Air Rifle event in the ISSF President's Cup at Cairo, Egypt: Rudrankksh
217.	India formally assumed the Presidency of G-20 grouping for the period of one year, from which date? Dec 01, 2022
218.	The 23 rd edition of the 10-day long Hornbill Festival began on Dec 01 in which state? Nagaland
219.	December 01 is observed as World _____ Day to spread awareness about the HIV: AIDS
220.	What is Hornbill – a bird, animal, flower or Fruit? Bird
221.	India assumed the chairmanship of the Wassenaar Arrangement on the _____, 2023: 1st January
222.	Wassenaar Arrangement is a multilateral export control regime wherein its 42 member states exchange information on_____: Transfer of conventional weapons and dual-use goods and technologies
223.	Wassenaar is a suburb of the main city The Hague. It is in which country? Netherlands
224.	The Asia Junior Badminton Championship was held from Nov 29 to Dec 4 at Nonthaburi in which country? Thailand
225.	The 12 th edition of the bilateral exercise Agni Warrior held between the _____ and Indian armies, concluded on Nov 30: Singapore
226.	Exercise Warrior was held at which place? Deolali in Maharashtra
227.	Axis Bank's '2022 Burgundy Private Hurun India 500,' which lists the country's 500 most valuable firms, placed which corporate at second place, first being Reliance? TCS

228.	Sudarshan Chakra Corps of Indian Army conducted exercise _____ in the deserts of Rajasthan on 30th November: Sudarshan Prahar
229.	India's biggest Yoga Centre has been constructed in the village _____ in Udhampur district of Jammu and Kashmir: Mantalai
230.	An Indian Coast Guard Advanced Light Helicopter Mk-III squadron, 840 Sqn (CG), was commissioned at _____ on Nov 30: Chennai
231.	South Korea's Mina Sue Choi won the _____ title on November 29 at Cove, Manila, Philippines: Miss Earth 2022
232.	Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya in _____ was conferred with the 'Award of Excellence' at the UNESCO's Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation-2022: Mumbai
233.	SEBI has set up a high-level panel headed by _____ to review the takeover norms: Shiavax Jal Vazifdar
234.	In a major consolidation in the Indian aviation space, the Vistara has been merged with which airline? Air India
235.	Which major foreign airline holds a 25.1% stake in Air India? Singapore Airlines
236.	WHO announced to change the name of the disease Monkeypox to _____: Mpox
237.	Which virus leads to causing of Monkeypox? Monkeypox virus
238.	The world's largest active volcano, Hawaii's _____, started erupting on the night of Nov 27, for the first time in almost 40 years: Mauna Loa
239.	As per official data released on Nov 30 by the Central Statistical Office, what was the growth rate of GDP in Qr ended 30 th Sep? 6.3%
240.	Sundaraman Ramamurthy has been appointed the MD & CEO of which apex stock exchange? BSE – Bombay stock Exchange
241.	Which corporate bagged the contract for the 640-acre (2.6 sq km) Dharavi Redevelopment Project in Central Mumbai? Adani group
242.	As per recent data for the years 2018 and 2020, the MMR in India declined from 130 in 2014-16 to _____ per lakh live births in 2018-20: 97
243.	What is full form of MMR? Maternal Mortality Ratio
244.	What does MMR represent? Number of maternal deaths per one lakh live births, during a given time period
245.	Chennai-based space tech startup _____ launched India's first private launchpad and mission control centre on Nov 28: Agnikul Cosmos
246.	Agnikul Cosmos launched India's first private launchpad at which place? Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota
247.	Merriam-Webster dictionary selected "_____" as the 'Word of Year 2022': Gaslighting
248.	Merriam-Webster is one of the oldest dictionaries of which country? USA
249.	The BCCI entered into the Guinness Book of World Records for the largest attendance at a T20 match on 29 May in which stadium? Narendra Modi Stadium in Motera, Ahmedabad
250.	Which is the first company in the world to receive approval from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation for its COVID-19 intranasal vaccine

	iNCOVACC? Bharat Biotech International Ltd, Hyderabad
251.	Who scripted history by smashing seven sixes in an over (including a no ball), in a list A match, creating a new world record? Ruturaj Gaikwad
252.	Who has been elected unopposed as the first woman President of the Indian Olympic Association, IOA? P T Usha
253.	P T Usha is fondly called “ ___ Express” to compliment her super speed: Payyoli
254.	Which film won the Golden Peacock for Best Film at the 53 rd IFFI at Goa? ‘I have Electric Dreams’ from Costa Rica
255.	What is the amount of cash award given with the Golden Peacock? Rs. 40 lakh
256.	Who has been appointed as the ambassador of the ‘Ni-Kshay Mitra’ campaign? Dr. Deepa Malik
257.	Who is Dr Deepa Malik? President of the Paralympic Committee of India and first Indian para-athlete to win Paralympic medal and several other medals, including Khel Ratna
258.	Indian Navy’s third Survey Vessel ‘ ___ ’ was launched on 26 Nov in Chennai for testing waters: Ikshak
259.	81st Annual Madras-Colombo Rowing Regatta was held on Nov 26 at which place? Colombo, Sri Lanka
260.	Davis Cup is associated with ___ sports? Men’s Tennis
261.	Which team won the Davis Cup 2022? Canada
262.	FSSAI has approved the Himalayan ___ as a ‘food animal’: Yak
263.	Malaysia hosted the joint military exercise Exercise Harimau Shakti-2022 with which other country? India
264.	What was the name of the first edition of bilateral training exercise between contingents of the Indian Army and the Australian Army? Austra Hind 22
265.	Austra Hind 22 exercise was held from Nov 28 to Dec 11 at which place? Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan
NOVEMBER 2022	
1.	Which armed force of India conducted exercise “Samanvay 2022” from Nov 28 to 30? Indian Air Force
2.	Exercise Samanvay was held at which place? Agra, UP
3.	India celebrates NCC day annually on the 4 th ___ of November: Sunday
4.	ISRO launched its PSLV-C54 on Nov 26 to successfully place which satellite in space? Earth Observation Satellite Oceansat
5.	Oceansat was placed in which kind of orbit? Sun-synchronous orbit
6.	The Constitution Day on Nov 26 marks the birthday of which great leader? None
7.	Who was the first Law Minister of the independent India? Dr. B R Ambedkar
8.	The Rural Development Ministry of India has formed Amarjeet Sinha panel to examine the restructuring of which central mega scheme? Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
9.	India has invited Egyptian ___ Gen. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi as the Chief Guest at the Republic Day Parade in 2023: President

10.	National Milk Day on Nov 26 commemorates birth anniversary of “Milkman of India”. What was his name? Dr. Verghese Kurien
11.	World over, which day is observed as World Milk Day? June 01
12.	The Global Employability University Ranking and Survey report released by the Times Higher Education (THE), London on Nov 24 placed which institution at the top? Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA
13.	Which Indian institution secured highest ranking in the above ranking? IIT Delhi, 28th
14.	The RBI approved the continuation of the Interest Subvention Scheme for how many more years? Two, 2022-23 and 24
15.	Farmers will get interest subsidy of ___ % on short term loans up to Rs. ___ lakh: 1.5; Three
16.	Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders, Mumbai, handed over Y 12705 Mormugao to Indian Navy on Nov 24. What type of warship is it? Kolkata class stealth guided missile destroyer
17.	Who has been appointed as the next chief of Pakistan Army on Nov 24 by the prime minister Shahbaz Sharif? Lt Gen Asim Munir
18.	Which bank has rolled out Face Authentication-based savings bank account opening for customers? Airtel Payments Bank
19.	Who was voted as the world’s most popular leader with an approval rating of 77 percent, as revealed by the Global Leader Approval Ratings? Sh. Narendra Modi
20.	Which bank launched India’s first sticker-based Debit Card- FIRSTAP on Nov 24, in association with the NPCI? IDFC First Bank
21.	Anwar Ibrahim was sworn in as prime minister of which southeastern country on Nov 24? Malaysia
22.	Which ministry announced on Nov 23 the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Awards for the year 2021? Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
23.	Who is the current minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Ministry? Anurag Thakur
24.	What is the amount of cash award given in the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award? Rs. 15 lakh
25.	Which company delivered Ferry Craft ‘Manjula’ to the Indian Navy on Nov 23 in Kolkata? Shalimar Works Ltd, Kolkata
26.	The fourth edition of the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD) was held in ___ on Nov 23-25: New Delhi
27.	___ pushed China to second place to become the top supplier of fertilisers to India for the first time in the first six months of this fiscal year: Russia
28.	What was the name of the 8th edition of the India-Indonesia bilateral joint training exercise that kicked off on Nov 21? Garuda Shakti 2022
29.	Which country hosted the exercise Garuda Shakti 2022? Indonesia
30.	Which organisation under the Ministry of Culture celebrated World Heritage week all over India from Nov 19 to 25? Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)
31.	Which Indian state has the highest number, 745, of protected monuments? Uttar Pradesh
32.	Which veteran FI driver announced his retirement from F1 racing, on Nov 20? Sebastian Vettel, Germany

33.	Noted conservationist Purnima Devi Barman was awarded Champions of the Earth 2022 award. She hails from which state? Assam
34.	Ms Barman has been awarded for her devoted efforts to save which bird from extinction? Hargila (Greater Adjutant Stork)
35.	With which country India participated in Naseem Al Bahr-2022 naval exercise? Oman
36.	The union government unveiled on Nov 21 a framework of standards to curb _____ on e-commerce websites: Fake reviews
37.	South Western Command of the Indian Army, conducted Integrated Fire Power Exercise, "Shatrunash" on Nov 21 in which area? Thar Desert of Rajasthan
38.	Cianjur, a densely populated town in West Java, Indonesia was in news on Nov 21 due to what reason? It was struck by a massive earthquake
39.	Which is the central government's flagship programme for promoting fisheries? Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana
40.	From which country India took over the Chair of the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence, GPAI on Nov 21? France
41.	Name the Tamil Nadu batter who create new world record for the highest individual score in men's List A cricket in ODI format on Nov 21 by hammering 277 runs: Narayan Jagadeesan
42.	Universal Children's Day is observed on which day of November? 20th
43.	Awaas Diwas on Nov 20 marks the launch of which central rural housing scheme for poor on this day in 2016? Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana - Gramin - PMAY-G
44.	Under PMAY-G, the beneficiaries are allotted a piece of land not less than ____ sq mt: 25
45.	Opening ceremony of the FIFA World Cup 2022 was held in which stadium? Al Bayt Stadium in Al Khor, Qatar
46.	Opening match of FIFA World Cup 2022 was played between Qatar and which other country? Ecuador
47.	Who is the current President of FIFA? Gianni Infantino
48.	Which was the opening film at the 53 rd IFFI on Nov 20? Alma and Oskar, from Australia
49.	Which veteran actor was honoured as the Indian Film Personality of the Year 2022 on the opening day of IFFI? Chiranjeevi
50.	Egypt hosted the 27th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 27) of the UNFCCC in which city? Sharm el-Sheikh
51.	Who represented India at the COP-27? Environment, Forest, and Climate Change Minister, Bhupender Yadav
52.	The 28th session of the COP will be hosted by the _____ in December 2023: UAE
53.	COP-27 members agreed to provide a "_____" fund for assisting developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change: Loss and Damage
54.	Which organisation was given the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development-2021 on Nov 19? Mumbai based NGO Pratham

55.	The Network Readiness Index 2022 report placed India at which spot? 61st
56.	India's first National Centre of Excellence for Green Port & Shipping was launched on Nov 19 by which union ministry? Ministry of Ports, Shipping
57.	Areez Pirojshaw Khambatta, chairman of the _____ Group passed away on Nov 19 at the age of 85: Rasna
58.	Who became the first Indian female paddler to win a medal at the ITTF-ATTU Asian Cup tournament on Nov 19 in Bangkok? Manika Batra
59.	Which international day is observed on Nov 19 to celebrate, recognise and appreciate all women entrepreneurs around the world? Women's Entrepreneurship Day
60.	What is the theme selected for this year's World Toilet Day (Nov 19)? Making the Invisible Visible
61.	What is the name of the new greenfield airport that was inaugurated on Nov 19 in Arunachal Pradesh in its capital Itanagar? Donyi-Polo Airport
62.	Which country topped the medal tally in the 15th Asian Airgun Championship 2022? India
63.	Which country hosted the 15th Asian Airgun Championship 2022? South Korea
64.	What is the amount of cash award in the UNESCO Madanjeet Singh Prize? US \$ 100,000/-
65.	The 2022 UNESCO Madanjeet Singh Prize was won by Ms. Franca Ma-ih Sulem Yong. She is from which country? Cameroon
66.	UNESCO Madanjeet Singh Prize for Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence is awarded every two years on which occasion? International Day of Tolerance on November 16
67.	Kassym-Jomart Tokayev has been re-elected as the President of which Central Asian country for a second term? Kazakhstan
68.	What was the name of the India's first-ever private suborbital rocket launched on Nov 18? Vikram-S
69.	Which space startup developed the Vikram-S rocket? Skyroot Aerospace, Telangana
70.	India celebrates Naturopathy Day on Nov 18. Who is the current head of the Ministry of Ayush? Sarbananda Sonowal
71.	India unveiled the official website of the SCO on Nov 18 for the year 2022-23. What is expansion of SCO? Shanghai Cooperation Organization
72.	What is the theme selected by India for its tenure of SCO for 2022-23? For a SECURE SCO
73.	The Asian Development Bank gave in-principle approval for a \$400-million loan to the _____ government to bring in 5,000 electric buses: Maharashtra
74.	Who won this year's 5th JCB Prize for Literature? Khalid Jawed for his novel The Paradise of Food
75.	The Paradise of Food was written originally in which language? Urdu
76.	What is the cash reward given with the JCB Prize for Literature? Rs 25 lakh
77.	Which district in Uttar Pradesh became number one in the country in giving the maximum number of tap connections in a month (in October)? Shahjahanpur

78.	_____ has been declared as the “Word of the Year 2022” by the Cambridge Dictionary of UK: Homer
79.	What does the word ‘Homer’ represent? It’s an informal American English word for a home run in Baseball
80.	Which is the ‘Country of Focus’ for the 53rd International Film Festival of India? France
81.	As per a government notification dated November 17, the tenure for the appointment of the MD or ED of a public sector bank has been extended to _____ years: Ten
82.	Name the 71-year-old former bureaucrat who was appointed Governor of West Bengal on Nov 17: Dr. C.V. Ananda Bose
83.	National Press Day on Nov 16 is associated with which apex institution in the field of journalism? Press Council of India
84.	Press is often referred to as _____ pillar of democracy? Fourth
85.	World Press Freedom Day is observed on which date? May 03
86.	NASA launched its most powerful rocket ever built on Nov 16. What was its name? Artemis
87.	Artemis will place which space module in Moon’s orbit? Orion
88.	Which UN agency supports the celebration of International Day for Tolerance on Nov 16? UNESCO
89.	India conducted Exercise Yudh Abhyas–22 from Nov 16 with which other country: USA
90.	Military exercise Yudh Abhyas–22 was held at which place? Auli, Uttarakhand
91.	The Group of 20 members held their 17th annual Heads of Nations summit on Nov 15-16 at which place? Bali, Indonesia
92.	What was the theme of this year’s G-20 summit? Recover Together, Recover Stronger
93.	Which country was handed over the presidency of G-20 for the year 2022-23? India
94.	International Students Day is observed on ____ of November: 17th
95.	Which mega MNC secured an unwanted distinction by becoming the world’s first public company to lose a trillion dollars in market value? Amazon.com.Inc
96.	The government gathered about Rs 3,839 crore by selling its 1.5% stake in which private bank? Axis Bank
97.	Who became the first player from India to get elected in the Athletes’ Commission of the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF)? Achanta Sharath Kamal
98.	India observes which special day on Nov 16 to mark the historic origins of the institution of CAG (Comptroller & Auditor General)? Audit Diwas
99.	Who is the current CAG of India? Sh. Girish Chandra Murmu
100.	World COPD Day is celebrated on the third Wednesday of November (16). What is full form of COPD? Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
101.	Who has been elected as the Chairperson of the Athletes Commission of the Indian Olympic Association on Nov 15? Mary Kom
102.	On Nov 15, the UN population clock flashed which landmark figure? 8 billion

103.	The four member countries of the “Quad” conducted the 26th edition of _____ exercise off Yokosuka in Japan from Nov 8 to 15: Malabar
104.	Lance Naik Manju created history by becoming the first woman soldier _____ of the Indian Army: Skydiver
105.	Janjatiya Gaurav Divas on Nov 15 marks the birthday of which legendary tribal hero? Birsa Munda
106.	Birsa Munda hailed from which tribe? Munda, from Jharkhand
107.	What was the name of the 3rd Pan-India Coastal Defence Exercise conducted by the Indian Navy on Nov 15-16? Sea Vigil-22
108.	Sea Vigil-22 was conducted in which area? Along entire Indian coast
109.	The Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2023 released on Nov 14, placed India at which spot? 8th
110.	Operation “Sea Sword 2” of the Combined Maritime Forces was held in which area from Nov 06 to 14? Northwest Arabian Sea
111.	Who is the sole winner of Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award, 2022? Sharath Kamal Achanta
112.	Sharath Kamal Achanta is a top-rated player of which sport? Table Tennis
113.	Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar won which national trophy for its overall best performance in sports? Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy 2022
114.	Which country secured top position in the CCPI 2023? Denmark
115.	What is the full form of CCPI: Climate Change Performance Index
116.	Which state government plans to set up first of its kind Green Hydrogen (KGH2) Hub? Kerala
117.	World Diabetes Day on Nov 14 marks the birthday of which great scientist associated with discovery of Insulin? Sir Frederick Banting
118.	Organisers of the 2024 Paris Olympics and Paralympics unveiled the mascots for the games on Nov 14 at Paris. What is its name? Phryges
119.	Phryges has been designed after which item? Ancient red conical cap
120.	India celebrates Children’s Day on Nov 14. When does the world celebrate ‘Children’s Day’? Nov 20
121.	Which city hosted the finals of the ICC T-20 World Cup on Nov 13? Melbourne, Australia
122.	England defeated which country to lift ICC T-20 World Cup? Pakistan
123.	Which player won both, Player of the Match as well as Player of the Series title in the ICC T-20 World Cup? Sam Curran, of England
124.	Natasa Pirc Musar was elected as the first female President of which country? Slovenia
125.	The Health and Finance Ministers of the G-20 group launched a \$1.4 billion Fund on November 13 for what purpose? To tackle the next global pandemic
126.	Who has been re-elected as Chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC) on Nov 12 for a second two-year term? Greg Barclay
127.	Where in world are the headquarters of the ICC? Dubai, UAE

128.	What was the name of the bilateral exercise conducted by the Indian and the French Air Forces in Jodhpur, Rajasthan? Garuda VII
129.	India celebrates November 12 as the Public Service Broadcasting Day. Which is the apex holding organisation for All India Radio and Door Darshan? Prasar Bharati
130.	What is the theme of this year's World Pneumonia Day observed on Nov 12? Pneumonia Affects Everyone
131.	Switzerland Tourism has appointed which Indian Olympian as the 'Friendship Ambassador' of the country? Neeraj Chopra
132.	ASEAN agreed in principle to admit which country as the group's 11th member, on Nov 11? East Timor
133.	East Timor attained freedom from which country in 2002? Indonesia
134.	National Education Day on Nov 11 marks the birthday of which great freedom fighter? Maulana Abul Kalam Azad
135.	Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar made his first foreign visit on Nov 11, after assuming office, to which country? Cambodia
136.	Sh Dhankhar visited Cambodia for what purpose? To attend 19th ASEAN-India Summit and 17th East Asia Summit
137.	Permanent secretariate of ASEAN is located in which city? Jakarta, Indonesia
138.	India's first national repository for life science data, the Indian Biological Data Centre (IBDC) was launched on Nov 10 in which city? Faridabad, Haryana
139.	_____ has become the first state in India to launch a uniform gold price in the state, based on the bank rate: Kerala
140.	As per the amended Aadhaar rules, supporting documents need to be updated at least once on completion ____ years from the enrolment date: Ten
141.	UGC asked higher education institutions to engage professionals and industry experts as "Professors of _____": Practice
142.	In which state Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary has been established recently? Tamil Nadu
143.	Which batter scripted history on Nov 10 by becoming the first batter in history to reach 4000 runs in T20 Internationals? Virat Kohli
144.	World Usability Day, also known as 'Make Things Easier' Day, is observed on the second ____ of November: Thursday
145.	National Legal Services Day on Nov 9 marks the enactment of which law? Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987
146.	Government has mandated private TV channels in India, for the first time ever, to run 30-minute daily programmes on which issue? National importance and social relevance
147.	Which outfit of NITI Aayog launched the Women centric challenges on Nov 9 under the 2 nd edition of Atal New India Challenge? Atal Innovation Mission
148.	The government approved a framework for issuance of the sovereign green bonds on Nov 9 to attract investment in which type of projects? Environmentally sustainable and climate-suitable projects

149.	Indian Army has launched a single window facility - Veerangana Sewa Kendra for welfare and grievances redressal of ____: War widows
150.	For the first time ever, researchers in which country have successfully transfused blood grown in a lab from adult stem cells, into two people? Britain
151.	As per the Mother Tongue Survey of India, which is the second most spoken mother tongue language in India, after Hindi? Bengali
152.	Praveen Hooda, Lovlina Borgohain, Saweety Boora, and Alfiya Pathan are noted sportswomen from which field? Boxing
153.	India joined the newly launched ____ Alliance for Climate on Nov 8 at the 27th Session of COP27? Mangrove
154.	Mangrove forests can capture vast amounts of which gas from the atmosphere? Carbon-di-Oxide
155.	India's logo, theme and website for its presidency of the G20 was unveiled on Nov 8. It depicts ____ sitting over a ____ flower: Earth; Lotus
156.	The logo depicts which Vedic phrase to convey the theme of the G20 India 2023? 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'
157.	The phrase 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' has been taken from which Upanishad? Maha Upanishad
158.	India will assume the presidency of the G-20 from which date? December 1, 2022
159.	India will host the G-20 leaders' summit in ____ on ____ 9-10 in 2023: New Delhi; September
160.	Which international day on Nov 8 aims at promoting the role of planning in creating liveable urban communities? World Town Planning Day
161.	Who is credited with the discovery of X-rays? Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen, German Scientist
162.	An Army Commanders' Conference was held in ____ in November 2022 to brainstorm on current and emerging security and administrative challenges for the Indian Army: New Delhi
163.	Which state has been given the hosting rights for the Khelo India National University Games - 2023-2024? Uttar Pradesh
164.	Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Law Commission of India? Justice Rituraj Awasthi (retd.)
165.	India celebrates National Cancer Awareness Day on Nov 7. This happens to be the birthday of which great scientist associated with cancer treatment? Ms. Marie Curie
166.	Marie Curie was awarded second Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1911 for discovery of which two elements? Polonium and Radium
167.	Leaders from over 25 countries and 20 organisations launched the International ____ Resilience Alliance on Nov 7 at COP 27: Drought
168.	A majority of a five-judge bench (3:2) of the Supreme Court on Nov 7 upheld the validity of the ____ Amendment of the Constitution which provides 10% reservation for EWS: 103rd
169.	Mohammad Tayyab Ikram from Macau has been elected as the new President of which apex world sports body? International Hockey Federation, FIH
170.	FIH is based in which place? Lausanne, Switzerland

171.	Pramod Bhagat and Manisha Ramadass, paralympic _____ champions won their respective gold medals on Nov 6 at an international event: Badminton
172.	The 15th edition of the Urban Mobility India Conference & Expo was held in _____ from Nov 4 to 6: Kochi, Kerala
173.	Who became the first Indian player on Nov 6 to score 1,000 T20 International runs in a calendar year? Suryakumar Yadav
174.	Which specialised UN agency supports the celebration of the World Tsunami Awareness Day on Nov 5? UN Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)
175.	Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy is associated with which sports? Cricket
176.	This trophy is played in which format? T20
177.	Which team lifted the Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Trophy on Nov 5? Mumbai
178.	Saurav Ghoshal and Ramit Tandon won their first-ever team gold in Asian _____ Team Championships on Nov 4: Squash
179.	Aibawk, a cluster of 11 villages, in the Aizawl district of _____, became the first cluster to be completed under the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission: Mizoram
180.	Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty are the noted player of which sports? Badminton
181.	India's (also world's) largest Wind Turbine Generator was commissioned in _____, Gujarat, on Nov 3: Mundra
182.	Which city in Gujarat became the second Indian city to issue a municipal bond on Nov 3? Vadodara
183.	Which was the first Indian city to issue such a bond in 2017? Pune
184.	Which Indian spiritual Guru has been honoured with the Gandhi Peace Pilgrimage Award: Sri Sri Ravishankar
185.	Sri Sri Ravishankar is the founder of which spiritual movement/ setup? Art of Living
186.	What is the name of the unique index for evidence-based comprehensive analysis of school education systems across States and UTs, released on Nov 3? Performance Grading Index, PGI
187.	The PGI placed how many states in the top bracket L1, for scoring above 950 marks? None
188.	Which country created a new world record for running the world's longest passenger train, measuring 1,910 metres? Switzerland
189.	Subhrakant Panda has been elected as the President of which national level industry organisation on Nov 2? FICCI
190.	What is the full form of the acronym FICCI? Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry
191.	DRDO conducted a successful maiden flight-test of Phase-II Ballistic Missile Defence, _____ AD-1 missile on Nov 02: Interceptor
192.	Name the renowned women's rights activist and the founder of SEWA, who died in Ahmedabad on Nov 2: Ela Bhatt
193.	What is the expansion of the acronym SEWA? Self Employed Women's Association
194.	Naval ships of which country participated in the Exercise Indo-Pacific Endeavour, from Oct 30 to Nov 2? Australia

195.	Exercise Indo-Pacific Endeavour was held in which place? In Bay of Bengal, near Visakhapatnam
196.	Which Indian cricketer became the world's no. one T20I batter on Nov 2? Suryakumar Yadav
197.	Scotland's Collins Dictionary has named " _____ " as the "word of the year": Permacrisis
198.	The EPFO on November 1, placed which state/UT at top for highest coverage under EPFO of their working population? Delhi
199.	EPFO is a statutory body under which union ministry? Ministry of Labour and Employment
200.	Name the small town located in the district Banswara of Rajasthan, on the Gujarat-Rajasthan border, that was declared as a 'National Monument' on Nov 01: Mangarh Dham
201.	World Vegan Day is observed on which day of November? First
202.	The RBI launched the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) or Digital Rupee on Nov 01 in the _____ segment on pilot basis: Wholesale
203.	RBI has identified how many banks for participation in the Digital Rupee's wholesale pilot project? Nine
204.	Benjamin Netanyahu, 73 year old Chief of right-wing Likud Party, became the Prime Minister of which country for a record 6th term? Israel
205.	The Income Tax Department launched the HARIT Aaykar initiative for what purpose? To increase greenery and develop micro forests
206.	What is the full form of the acronym HARIT? Hariyali Achievement Resolution by Income Tax
207.	Government has constituted _____ committee for strengthening the assessment and accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions in the country: Dr. K. Radhakrishnan
208.	The "Union Home Minister's Special Operation Medal" for the year 2022 were announced on Oct 31 for how many Special Operations? Four
209.	The immensely popular Chhath Puja concluded on the early morning of Oct 31 with devotees offering prayers to which deity? The rising Sun
210.	As per the Hindu Puranas, who is 'Chhathi Maiyaa', the main deity for Chhath Puja? Sister of Sun God
211.	Which F1 driver set a new Formula One record on Oct 30, of 15 victories from a single season? Max Verstappen
212.	What is the name of the MoU signed by the AIFF, Ministry for Education and the FIFA on October 30, to broad base football across various schools in the country? Football4Schools
213.	The French government's highest civilian honour, Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des was awarded to Aruna Sairam, a veteran _____ : Carnatic vocalist
214.	The International Union of Geological Sciences of UNESCO has recognised the Mawmluh Cave as one of the first 100 IUGS geological heritage sites. It is in which state? Meghalaya
215.	Which team won the 2022 U-17 Women's World (Football) Cup on Oct 30? Spain
216.	Which Indian city hosted the finals of 2022 U-17 Women's World (Football) Cup? Navi Mumbai

217.	Government has invited Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali to be the chief guest at which major event in India? 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention
218.	What is the theme of 2023 Pravasi Bharatiya Divas? Diaspora: Reliable Partners for India's Progress in Amrit Kaal
219.	Government approved the creation of a fourth tiger reserve by the name "Ranipur Tiger Reserve" in which state? Uttar Pradesh
220.	_____J Irani, the former MD of Tata Steel, who was also famously known as the 'Steel Man of India' passed away on October 31: Jamshed
221.	The Indian Navy hosted the 29th edition of the Singapore-India maritime bilateral exercise from October 26 to 30 in Bay of Bengal, near which place? Visakhapatnam
222.	The foundation stone of a C-295MW military aircraft manufacturing project for the Indian Air Force (IAF) was laid at _____in Gujarat on the 30th October: Vadodara
223.	What type of aircraft is C-295MW? Transport, Cargo
224.	A consortium of European major Airbus and Indian conglomerate _____will jointly make this aircraft in India: Tata
225.	More than 140 people lost their lives and several others were injured after a century-old suspension bridge on the Machhu river in Gujarat's _____ collapsed on Oct 30: Morbi
226.	Indian junior men's hockey team defeated which country to lift the Sultan of Johor Cup on Oct 29? Australia
227.	Which country is the permanent host of the Sultan of Johor Cup? Malaysia
228.	In which city at least 151 people were killed and 82 others were injured, mostly young, in a deadly stampede on Oct 29 during Halloween celebrations? Seoul, South Korea
229.	Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva has been elected as the new President of which South American country? Brazil
230.	The union government approved on Oct 28 the establishment of India's first-ever Integrated Aqua Park at Tarin in which state? Arunachal Pradesh
231.	The aqua park is to be set up under which fisheries promotion scheme of central government? Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana
232.	The first edition of the India-Mozambique-Tanzania Trilateral Exercise, was held in the Indian Ocean, near Dar Es Salaam on Oct 27 -29. It is in which country? Tanzania
233.	World's tallest (369-foot) statue of Lord Shiva, was unveiled in Nathdwara town, in which state? Rajasthan
234.	In a historic move, the BCCI announced on Oct 27 to pay equal match fee to both men and women cricket players of India. Who is the current President of BCCI? Roger Binny
235.	The inaugural QS World University Rankings: Sustainability gave highest ranking to which Indian university among Indians? IIT Bombay
236.	In the above rankings released on Oct 26, which university was placed at the top? University of California

237.	Government gave its nod on Oct 21 to the establishment of the Terai Elephant Reserve in which state? Uttar Pradesh
238.	IRDAI recently announced the launch of _____, a common online marketplace for all companies selling life and non-life insurance: Bima Sugam
239.	Among four promoters of Bima Sugam, _____ will hold largest share of 35%: Public Sector Banks
OCTOBER 2022	
1.	Which international day on Oct 31 aims to work for planned and sustainable urban life in the wake of rapid growth of urbanization? World Cities Day
2.	Which national day is observed on Oct 31 to celebrate the birthday of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel? Rashtriya Ekta Diwas
3.	A 3,65,000 tonnes per annum green hydrogen and green ammonia plant is being set up which district of Rajasthan? Kota
4.	_____ of China won the men's singles title at the 2022 Denmark Open: Shi Yuqi
5.	The coveted International eco-label "Blue Flag", has been accorded to India's two new beaches on Oct 26. They are from which area? Lakshadweep
6.	Who is the author of the book titled "The Philosophy of Modern Song"? Bob Dylan, Literature Nobel laureate
7.	Which Indian has been elected as the first woman Chairperson of the International Civil Aviation Organisation's Aviation Security Committee? Shefali Juneja
8.	"It Starts With Us" is popular novel on the New York Best Sellers list. Who is its author? Colleen Hoover
9.	India celebrates Infantry Day on Oct 27 to mark which event? First operation by Indian Infantry in 1947 against Pakistani invaders
10.	Rishi Sunak scripted history on Oct 25 by becoming first British Prime Minister of Indian origin. He had resigned from which important office in July 2022? Chancellor of Exchequer
11.	Which strong cyclone devastated southern Bangladesh on Oct 24-25? Sitrang
12.	Which day of October is observed as the World Polio Day? 24th
13.	In which year India was declared "Polio Free" by the WHO? 2014
14.	Which international day is observed on Oct 24 to mark the establishment of UNO? The United Nations Day
15.	The UNO was established in which year? 1945
16.	As per recent data, which country emerged as India's third-largest export destination, ahead of China and Bangladesh? The Netherlands
17.	Which national day is observed on the occasion of Dhanwantari Jayanti (Dhanteras) every year since 2016? National Ayurveda Day
18.	Lord Dhanwantari is regarded as the _____ of the Gods: Physician
19.	Teenager _____ Sehrawat, 16, made history on Oct 23 by becoming the first Indian to win a gold medal at the U-23 World Wrestling Championships in Pontevedra, Spain: Aman
20.	Holy city of Ayodhya created a new world record on Oct 23 by lighting the most diyas (earthen lamps), over 15 lakh, on the banks of which river? River Saryu

21.	ISRO launched 36 satellites on Oct 23 of which London-based internet company? OneWeb
22.	These 36 satellites would be used for what purpose? Broadband communication
23.	Mole Day on Oct 23 is associated with which discipline of science? Chemistry
24.	Who is credited with the discovery of Mole or Avogadro's number? Amedeo Avogadro (1776-1856)
25.	A mole represents _____, number of particles present in a single mole of a substance: 6.022×10^{23}
26.	International Snow Leopard Day is celebrated on which date? October 23
27.	Snow Leopard is the state animal of which UT / State? Ladakh / Himachal
28.	Which place is known as the Snow Leopard capital of the world? Ladakh
29.	October 22 is observed as the International _____ Awareness Day: Stuttering (stammering)
30.	India successfully test-fired which indigenously-developed new generation medium-range ballistic missile on Oct 21 from the Odisha coast? Agni Prime
31.	What is the official mascot of next year's FIFA Women's World Cup? Tazuni
32.	Which two countries are the host for the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023? Australia and New Zealand
33.	Tazuni has been designed after which animal? Penguin
34.	Chinese President Xi Jinping, is also the _____ of China's ruling party, Chinese Communist Party-CPC: General Secretary
35.	Xi Jinping has now been allowed to carry on as China's President for another _____ years: Five
36.	The Global watchdog Financial Action Task Force (FATF), Paris added which country to the 'Black List' on Oct 21? Myanmar
37.	Which is the capital of Myanmar? NayPieDaw
38.	FATF removed which country from the Black List on Oct 21? Pakistan
39.	In a landmark decision, _____ imposed a ban on sale, purchase or transfer of handguns, wef Oct 21: Canada
40.	Police Commemoration Day observed on Oct 21 is associated with which armed police force of India? CRPF, Central Reserve Police Force
41.	Who has been re-elected as the Chairman of the Indian Banks' Association? A K Goel
42.	A K Goel is the current MD & CEO of which bank? Punjab National Bank
43.	Which day of October is observed as the World Statistics Day: 20th
44.	India celebrates "National Statistics Day" on which date? June 29
45.	_____ is a condition where bones become less dense and they lose their strength: Osteoporosis
46.	Which day of October is observed as World Osteoporosis Day? 20th
47.	Which day is observed on Oct 20 to honour the Armed Forces who displayed exemplary valour in the Sino- Indo war against China? National Solidarity Day
48.	The 5 th Khelo India Youth Games -2022 will be held in _____, from 31st January to 11th February, next year: Madhya Pradesh

49.	UN Secretary-General _____Guterres arrived in India on a three-day official visit from Oct 18 to 20: Antonio
50.	Mr. Guterres started his India visit from which city? Mumbai
51.	The Central government transferred the Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT) jurisdictions of all applications involving debt amounts of ₹100 crores and above to the DRTs at which three centres? Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai
52.	DRTs are the special tribunals set up for speedy disposal of recovery cases of banks and FIs involving Rs. _____ lakh or more: Twenty
53.	Who was the top philanthropist as per the EdelGive Hurun India Philanthropy List? Shiv Nadar
54.	Shiv Nadar is associated with which corporate? HCL Technologies
55.	Sajan Bhanwal became the first-ever Indian _____ wrestler on Oct 19 to win a medal at the Under-23 World Championship: Greco-Roman
56.	On October 19, Mallikarjun Kharge became the first non-Gandhi Congress President in 24 years. He comes from which state? Karnataka
57.	What is the formal official name of the Congress party? Indian National Congress
58.	Which top IIT won the National Intellectual Property Award for 2021 and 2022? IIT Madras
59.	The Competition Commission of India (CCI) imposed a penalty of over 1,337 crore rupees on which tech giant for abusing its dominant position in multiple markets? Google
60.	The Government on October 18 approved an increase in Rabi Crops MSP. MSP is increased in line with the recommendations of _____ Commission: M S Swaminathan
61.	MSP of wheat has been increased by Rs. 110 to Rs. _____ per quintal: 2125
62.	Which lentil enjoys the highest MSP of Rs. 6,000 per quintal? Masur
63.	Who has been elected the 36th president of the BCCI on October 18? Roger Binny
64.	Which city hosted the 90th Interpol General Assembly from Oct 18 to 21? New Delhi
65.	What is the full form of INTERPOL? International Criminal Police Organisation
66.	Interpol is based in _____, France: Lyon
67.	The Defence Ministry organised the 12th edition of the prestigious Biennial Defence Exhibition - DefExpo 2022 in which city? Gandhinagar, Gujarat
68.	What was the theme of the DefExpo 2022? Path to Pride
69.	Which union minister has been elected as the President of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)? R K Singh
70.	Mr. R K Singh heads which union ministry? Power and New and Renewable Energy
71.	Headquarters of International Solar Alliance are situated in which city? Gurugram, Haryana
72.	The prestigious Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought is given by which organisation? European Parliament
73.	European Parliament awarded the Sakharov Prize to _____ : People of Ukraine for bravely facing Russian aggression

74.	In the world's first-ever global study on the rise of centi-millionaires, India was ranked at which spot? Third
75.	Which two countries participated in the Tiger Triumph 2022 HADR exercise held from Oct 18 to 20? India and USA
76.	What is the expansion of HADR? Humanitarian Assistance Disaster Relief
77.	Tiger Triumph 2022 exercise was held at which place? Visakhapatnam
78.	The BCCI in its AGM held on Oct 18, gave green signal to conduct which new tournament? Women's Indian Premier League
79.	India was ranked ____ out of 44 countries in the Mercer CFA Global Pension Index released on Oct 18: 41st
80.	Which country topped the Pension Index? Iceland
81.	According to a TRAI report released on Oct 18, ____ toppled BSNL in August to become the largest fixed-line service provider in the country: Reliance Jio
82.	The "Freedom on the Net " report released on Oct 18 placed which country at the top spot? Iceland
83.	More than 600 Pradhan Mantri Kisan ____ Kendra across India were inaugurated virtually on Oct 17 by Prime Minister Modi: Samruddhi
84.	Who won the men's Ballon d'Or, top French Football prize on October 17? Karim Benzema
85.	Karim Benzema hails from which country? France
86.	Alexia Putellas became the first woman to win back-to-back Ballon d'Or trophies. She plays for which Football Club? FC Barcelona
87.	Alexia Putellas hails from which country? Spain
88.	Which international day on Oct 17 aims to emphasise saving lives during accidents and ensure safety in emergency situations? World Trauma Day
89.	Which global organisation released the new Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) on October 17? United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
90.	What is the theme of this year's International Poverty Eradication Day? Dignity For All in Practice
91.	Sri Lankan author ____ Karunatilaka, 47, was named the winner of the 2022 Booker Prize: Shehan
92.	Shehan Karunatilaka won the Booker Prize for which novel? The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida
93.	What is the amount of cash award given with the Booker Prize? GBP 50,000/-
94.	Jyothi Yarraji created history by becoming the first Indian woman on Oct 17 to clock a sub-13 second time in which athletic event? 100-meter hurdles race
95.	India's first aluminum Rail Freight Rake was launched on October 16 at ____ Railway Station in Odisha: Bhubaneswar
96.	Prime Minister Modi dedicated 75 DBUs in 75 districts to the nation on Oct 16. What is a DBU? Digital Banking Unit
97.	Digital Banking Units will be functioning in virtual online mode or in the brick-and-mortar physical mode? Physical mode
98.	Which UN agency supports the celebration World Food Day on Oct 16? FAO - Food and Agriculture Organisation
99.	FAO is based in which city? Rome, Italy

100.	____ has become the first state in the country to start the MBBS course in Hindi: Madhya Pradesh
101.	Who has appointed as the new Chief Justice of India? Dr. Justice DY Chandrachud
102.	Justice Chandrachud has become the ____ th CJI of India: 50th
103.	Which country has been awarded the hosting rights for the AFC Asian (football) Cup 2023? Qatar
104.	Who has been appointed as 'Neutral Expert' by the World Bank under the Indus Waters Treaty? Michel Lino
105.	World Bank appointed Sean Murphy as ____ of the Court of Arbitration under the Indus Waters Treaty: Chairman
106.	The Indus Waters Treaty was signed in which year? 1960
107.	Pakistan has objections to construction of which two hydroelectric power plants for whose resolution Indus Waters Treaty was signed? Kishenganga and Ratle power projects
108.	The Indus Waters Treaty allocates three Western Rivers to Pakistan and three Eastern Rivers to India. Name these rivers: Western Rivers: Indus, Jhelum, Chenab. Eastern Rivers: Ravi, Beas, Sutlej
109.	Which state announced on Oct 14 formation of a new Durgavati Tiger Reserve? Madhya Pradesh
110.	India lifted the Women's Asia Cup (cricket) for the 7th time after defeating which country? Sri Lanka
111.	Which country hosted the Women's Asia Cup 2022? Bangladesh
112.	The ICC joined hands with which global organisation to launch a global partnership to promote inclusion and gender equality through cricket? UNICEF
113.	Which Indian metro city won the overall 'World Green City Award' on Oct 14 at the World Green City Awards 2022 held in Jeju, South Korea? Hyderabad
114.	The Ministry of Defence launched a website on Oct 14 named '____ Ke Sapoot': Maa Bharati
115.	www.maabharatikessapoot.mod.gov.in website has been launched for what purpose? To collect contributions to the Armed Forces Battle Casualties Welfare Fund
116.	India ranked ____ out of 121 countries in the Global Hunger Index 2022, with a score of 29.1: 107th
117.	Which country topped the Global Hunger Index 2022? None, almost 17 countries shared collective top-rankings with minimal difference
118.	Which international day is celebrated on Oct 15 to mark the birthday of Shri APJ Abdul Kalam? World Students' Day
119.	India observes which national day on October 15 to recognise and appreciate the contribution of women farmers in promotion of agriculture? Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas
120.	Which international day is observed on Oct 15 to recognise the crucial role of women and girls in improving the sustainability of rural households and communities? International Day of Rural Women
121.	What is the tagline of Mahila Kisan Diwas: 'Sashakt Mahila, Sashakt Bharat' (empowered women, empowered India)

122.	The theme of International Day of Rural Women for 2022 is: Millets: Empowering Women and Providing Nutritional Security
123.	The Global Handwashing Day is celebrated annually on which day of October? 15th
124.	World Egg Day is observed on ____ Friday of October: Second
125.	Which international day on Oct 14 aims to raise awareness about the importance of repairing or correctly disposing of used appliances with the aim to increase re-use, repair, recovery and recycling? International E-Waste Day
126.	October 14 is observed as World Standards Day. Which is the apex National Standards body of India? Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)
127.	A supercomputer named Param-Kamrupa, was inaugurated on October 13 in which IIT of India? IIT Guwahati
128.	Param-Kamrupa has a computing power of 838 TeraFlops. How many transactions per second are represented by one teraflop? One trillion
129.	What is the expansion of term FLOP? Floating operations per second
130.	Which global organisation released the Living Planet Report on October 13? World Wildlife Fund (WWF)
131.	The Living Planet Report finds that the Himalayan region and the ____ Ghats are the most vulnerable regions in the country in terms of biodiversity loss: Western
132.	Globally, which regions have seen the largest decline of monitored wildlife populations: Latin America and the Caribbean
133.	World Sight Day is observed on ____ Thursday of October: Second
134.	What is the theme of this year's World Sight Day? Love Your Eyes
135.	A special commemorative postage stamp was released on October 13 on the occasion of Golden Jubilee of which event? Introduction of PIN Code
136.	What is represented by the first digit of the six digit PIN code number? One of the nine postal regions in India
137.	International Day for Disaster Reduction on Oct 13 promotes provisions of which international protocol? The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
138.	The Sendai Framework was adopted in Sendai in 2015, in which country? Japan
139.	India celebrates National Philately Day on which day of October? 13th
140.	Abdul Latif Rashid was elected as the 9th President of ____ by its Parliament: Iraq
141.	The World Bank approved an unconditional loan of \$250 million for the "Supporting ____ Learning Transformation" (SALT) project: Andhra's
142.	In India, which is the only educational institution to secure a place in 251-300 bracket in the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2023 released on October 12? Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru
143.	Which university topped the World University Rankings 2023 in the world? University of Oxford, UK

144.	Which bank announced on October 12 that it became first bank to reach a new record level of AUM of Rs 6 trillion in the home loan segment? State Bank of India
145.	What is the full form of AUM? Assets Under Management
146.	In AUM, Assets represent what in bank? Loans and advances
147.	The 36th National Games came to a close on October 12 with a glittering ceremony at ____, Gujarat: Surat
148.	While Services topped the medal tally, which state secured second rank in the final medal tally of the 36th National Games: Maharashtra
149.	Which international day is observed on Oct 12 to raise awareness about an inflammatory condition which causes pain and stiffness in joints which can worsen with age? World Arthritis Day
150.	Country's first Slender Loris sanctuary was notified on October 12 in which state? Tamil Nadu
151.	Slender Lorises are tiny nocturnal ____ who spend most of their life on trees: Mammals
152.	The Eastern Naval Command conducted its Half Yearly Offshore Security Exercise, on Oct 12 with what name? 'Prasthan'
153.	Exercise Prasthan was conducted in sea waters near which city? Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh
154.	The fourth Vande Bharat Express train was launched from Una in Himachal Pradesh to ____ on Oct 12: New Delhi
155.	The latest Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index ranked India at which spot? 123rd
156.	Which country topped the Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index? Norway
157.	International Day of the Girl Child is observed on which date? October 11
158.	India celebrates National Girl Child Day annually on which date? January 24
159.	Which global organisation released its latest World Economic Outlook 2022 report on Oct 11? IMF
160.	IMF projected that global growth will slow from 6 percent in 2021 to ____ percent in 2022: 3.2
161.	Prime Minister Modi on October 11 dedicated to the nation the Phase I of the Mahakal Lok Project in the premises of which temple? Mahakaleshwar temple
162.	Mahakaleshwar temple is situated in which city? Ujjain
163.	The FIFA U-17 Women World Cup India 2022 started on Oct 11 with a grand opening ceremony at Kalinga Stadium in ____, Odisha: Bhubaneswar
164.	India played its first match in FIFA U-17 Women World Cup India 2022 against which country? USA
165.	What is the name of the official mascot for the FIFA U-17 Women World Cup India 2022? Ibha
166.	Ibha has been modelled after which animal? An Asiatic lioness
167.	What is the official slogan for the FIFA U-17 Women World Cup India 2022? Kick off the Dream
168.	The Nobel Prize in which field is not given by the Nobel Trust? Economics
169.	What is the formal name for the Nobel Prize in Economics? Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel

170.	Sveriges Riksbank represents which organisation on Sweden? Central Bank of Sweden
171.	The 2022 Nobel in Economics has been awarded for research in which field? Role of banks in the economy, particularly during financial crises
172.	The Union Health Ministry launched Tele MANAS, a 24x7 tele-mental service, on Oct 10. Expand MANAS: Mental Health Assistance and Networking Across States
173.	The 7th IBSAMAR, a joint Multi-Nation Maritime Exercise between the Indian, Brazilian and South African Navies, was hosted by which country? South Africa
174.	In a big accolade for the Indian government, IMF termed which welfare scheme as a 'logistical marvel' considering the sheer size of the country? Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme
175.	Mulayam Singh Yadav, three-time Uttar Pradesh chief minister and Samajwadi Party founder, passed away on Oct 10. He was popularly known as ____ : Netaji
176.	World Mental Health Day is observed on which day of October? 10th
177.	The 2nd UN World Geospatial Information Congress was held in which Indian city from Oct 10 to 14? Hyderabad
178.	October 9 is observed as the World Post Day. What was its theme for this year? Post for Planet
179.	Which footballer on Oct 9 became the first and only player to score 700 goals in football history? Cristiano Ronaldo
180.	Who won his second successive Formula One World Champion title for 2022? Max Verstappen
181.	Max Verstappen drives for which F1 team? Red Bull
182.	Which Indian women cricketer won the "ICC Player of the Month" award for September? Harmanpreet Kaur
183.	Indian Foreign Service Day on October 9 marks which event? Establishment of the Indian Foreign Service on this day in 1946
184.	On October 9, the daily number of domestic air passengers touched ____ lakh, the highest ever in recent times before Covid: Four
185.	The Indian Olympic Association announced that the 37th edition of the National Games will be hosted by ____ in October next year: Goa
186.	Which Indian cueist won the 2022 IBSF World Billiards Championship on Oct 8 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia? Pankaj Advani
187.	Which day of October is celebrated as the Air Force Day? October 8
188.	Who was the first Indian chief of the Indian Air Force? Air Marshal Subroto Mukerjee
189.	Who is the current chief of the Indian Air Force? Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari
190.	The government approved on Oct 8 the creation of a new branch in the Indian Air Force by which name? Weapon Systems
191.	Air Force Day on October 8 commemorates which landmark event in the history of Indian Air Force? Raising of the Indian Air Force on this day in 1932
192.	Which paramilitary force hosted the multinational Joint Anti-Terror Exercise (JATE) 2022 from October 8 to 13? National Security Guard (NSG)
193.	Joint Anti-Terror Exercise (JATE) 2022 was held at which place? Manesar, Haryana
194.	October 7 is observed as World ____ Day? Cotton

195.	The RBI announced on Oct 7 to soon launch e-rupee on pilot basis, generally known as CBDC. Expand CBDC: Central Bank Digital Currency
196.	SEBI announced on October 7 to allow BSE to start "____ stock exchange" as a separate segment: Social
197.	World Migratory Bird Day is celebrated twice a year, on the second ____ in May and in October: Saturday
198.	A first of its kind Bird Festival 2022 was inaugurated at which place in J&K on October 6? Pahalgam
199.	The X-ray spectrometer on which ISRO spaceship mapped an abundance of sodium on the moon for the first time? Chandrayaan-2
200.	Which global body released the South Asia Economic Focus report on Oct 6? World Bank
201.	The Election Commission of India launched a yearlong Voter Awareness Program titled ____ : Matdata Junction
202.	ECI launched Matdata Junction programme in collaboration with which other apex organisation? All India Radio
203.	Which is the National Aquatic Animal of India? Ganga River Dolphin
204.	India celebrates Ganga River Dolphin Day on Oct 5. Which state has India's only Dolphin Sanctuary? Bihar
205.	What is the name of India's only Dolphin Sanctuary? Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary
206.	The RBI has asked all ____ Companies to designate an Internal Ombudsman (IO) by April 1, 2023: Credit Information
207.	Select True or False: The IO will not entertain direct complaints from members of the public: True
208.	Select True or False: The tenure of IO will be for a fixed term of not less than three years, but not exceeding five years: True
209.	World Teachers' Day is observed on which date? October 5
210.	Which day of October is celebrated as the World Animal Day? 4th
211.	Which Indian hockey player was named the "FIH Women's Rising Star of the Year" on Oct 04? Mumtaz Khan
212.	What is the name of the indigenously-developed Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) inducted in the Indian Air Force on Oct 3? Prachand
213.	CBI launched country wide "Operation Chakra" on Oct 04 for what purpose? To track down cyber criminals
214.	The Nobel Peace Prize 2022 has been awarded jointly to human rights activist Ales Byalyatski from ____, and two other organisations: Belarus
215.	Which are the two human rights organisations selected for the Nobel Peace Prize 2022? Memorial from Russia and Ukrainian Centre for Civil Liberties
216.	The first Monday of every October is observed as World ____ Day: Habitat
217.	What is the nick name of the second edition of the "Scheme for Mentoring Young Authors" launched on October 2? YUVA2.0
218.	What is the full form of the YUVA2.0? Young, Upcoming and Versatile Authors
219.	The Nobel Prize in Physics 2022 has been awarded to scientists Alain Aspect (France), John F Clauser (USA)

	and Anton Zeilinger (Austria) for their work in which field? Quantum mechanics.
220.	Birthday of Mahatma Gandhi on October 2 is observed as which international day supported by the UNO? International Day of Non-violence
221.	Which city topped the 'Swachh Survekshan Awards 2022' declared by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs on October 2? Indore
222.	Who has been voted the FIH Player of the Year, 2021-22? Harmanpreet Singh
223.	Who became the first Indian on October 2 to complete 11,000 runs in T20 history? Virat Kohli
224.	This year's first Nobel Prize was Declared on October 01, for which field? Physiology or Medicine
225.	Who won 2022 Nobel Prize in Medicine? Swedish geneticist Svante Paabo
226.	Every full Nobel prize carries a cash award of _____ million Swedish Kroners: 10
227.	The government plans to launch a dollar one billion fund in collaboration with the World Bank, and which Indian financial institution? Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
228.	This dollar one billion fund is to be launched for what purpose? To provide guarantees against defaults on loans taken to buy electric two or three-wheelers
229.	Tulsi Tanti, popularly known as India's 'wind man', died of cardiac arrest at 64 on Oct 1. He was the founder of which big wind power company? Suzlon Energy
230.	Sujoy Lal Thaosan, Senior IPS officer has been appointed as the new Director General of which para military force? Central Reserve Police Force, CRPF
231.	Who has been made the new Director General of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police, ITBP? Anish Dayal Singh
232.	A stampede at a soccer stadium in which city of Indonesia on Oct 01 killed over 125 people and injured more than 320, making it one of the world's worst stadium disasters? Malang
233.	Navies of India and South Korea participated in a maritime partnership exercise in _____ on Oct 01: Bay of Bengal
234.	Marking the beginning of a new era in the field of telecommunications, 5G telephony services were launched in India on Oct 01 from which city? New Delhi
235.	Name the 82-year-old lady writer who has been honoured with the 2022 Nobel Prize in literature? Annie Ernaux
236.	Annie Ernaux hails from which country? France
237.	2022 Nobel Prize in Chemistry has been awarded for research work on snipping molecules together, known as _____ chemistry: Click
238.	India has pushed which country to second place to become largest producer of Sugar in the world? Brazil
239.	Of the six Nobel Prizes, except the _____ prize, all five are decided by the apex bodies in Sweden? Peace
240.	Who decides the winner of the Nobel Peace Prize? A Parliamentary Committee of Norway
241.	UT of _____ became first among all the states/UTs of India to achieve a cent percent coverage of precautionary dose of Corona vaccine: Andaman Nicobar Islands

242.	India firmed a deal with which country for export of missiles, rockets and ammunition, including indigenous Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launchers? Armenia
243.	For what purpose the RBI launched a web-based end-to-end workflow application, 'DAKSH', on Oct 6? To further improve the compliance culture in SEs
244.	What does term SEs refer to? Supervised Entities; like Banks, NBFCs, etc., institutions supervised by RBI
245.	The SASTRA Ramanujan Prize is associated with which field? Mathematics
246.	The SASTRA, a deemed university, is located in which state? Tamil Nadu
247.	Who has been honoured with this year's SASTRA Ramanujan Prize? Ms. Yunqing Tang
248.	Ms. Yunqing Tang is associated with which university? University of California, Berkeley, USA
249.	Indian Railways has decided to gradually reduce its carbon footprint to become Net Zero Carbon Emitter by which year? 2030
250.	The World Trade Organisation dramatically lowered its global trade growth forecast for 2023 on Oct 05, to what level? 01%
251.	Ms. Iweala hails from which country? Nigeria
252.	Who has been named the "National Icon " of the Election Commission of India on October 4: Noted actor Pankaj Tripathi
253.	Irani Cup is associated with which sports? Cricket
254.	Irani cup tournament is played in which format? Test Format
255.	Which team won the Irani Cup in 2022: Rest of India
256.	Who is the current Chief Election Commissioner of India? Rajiv Kumar
257.	Which village in Mehsana district of Gujarat, has been declared as India's first 24X7 solar-powered village? Modhera
258.	Modhera is known for which historical heritage monument? Sun Temple
259.	Which is the most famous sun temple in India: Konark Sun Temple, Odisha
260.	October 01 is celebrated as World Vegetarian Day. A vegetarian diet is usually low in → fat, fibres, vitamins, minerals: Select the correct option: Fat
261.	International Day of Older Persons is observed on which day of October? First
262.	Who is the winner of this year's UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award? Angela Merkel, former German chancellor
263.	October 01 is devoted to raising awareness about the plight _____ growers: Coffee
264.	Which global agency launched a new \$6 billion financing facility to strengthen the private sector's ability to respond to the crisis and help support food production? The International Finance Corp.
265.	Headquarters of the International Finance Corp. are located in which city? Washington DC, USA
266.	India has selected which day of October to celebrate National Voluntary Blood Donation Day? First
267.	The month-long Swachh Bharat Abhiyan 2.0 was launched on October 1 from which place in Uttar Pradesh? Prayagraj
268.	PFRDA has decided to observe ____ of October as the National Pension System Diwas (NPS Diwas): First

269.	The central government extended the application of the AFSPA in 12 districts of _____ and Arunachal Pradesh for another six months, beginning October 01: Nagaland
270.	Which country hosted the FIBA Women's Basketball World Cup? Australia
271.	Which country won the FIBA Women's Basketball World Cup? USA
272.	The Indian Air Force retired the No. 51 'sword arms' MiG-21 fighter Squadron on Sep 30. It is based at which place? Srinagar, J&K
273.	Who has been appointed as the new Attorney General of India? R Venkataramni
274.	Who has been appointed as the next Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)? Lt. Gen. Anil Chauhan (Retired)
275.	The CDS will also function as Secretary, Department of _____ Affairs: Military
276.	A new and upgraded version of Vande Bharat Express train was flagged off from which place on September 30? Gandhinagar, Gujarat
277.	RBI hiked the key policy rate Repo rate on Sep 30 to _____ percent, highest in last three years: 5.9
278.	The foundation stone for the first compressed natural gas (CNG) terminal in the world was laid in Gujarat's _____ on Sep 29: Bhavnagar
279.	The Global Innovation Index 2022 released on Sep 29 ranked India at which spot? 40th
280.	Who became the first-ever Indian to play 400 T20s? Rohit Sharma
281.	FIFA released a three-episode series "Captain Fantastic" on the life and career of which Indian footballer? Sunil Chhetri
282.	Hurricane Ian, a monster Category 4 storm made landfall on which US state on Sep 28-29? Florida
283.	The Union Cabinet approved a Rs 10,000 crore proposal for the redevelopment of which three railway station? New Delhi, Ahmedabad and Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus
284.	Government has decided to construct these three railway stations on EPC mode. Expand EPC: Engineering-Procurement-Construction
285.	Which company commissioned the world's largest wind-solar power plant of 600 MW capacity on Sep 29 in Rajasthan? Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL)
286.	This mega solar plant is located at which place in Rajasthan? Jaisalmer
287.	Which village in Kerala achieved the distinction of becoming the first totally digitally literate panchayat in the country? Pullampara
288.	In which city a roundabout named Lata Smriti Chowk, was dedicated to the melody queen Lata Mangeshkar on Sep 28, her 93rd birthday? Ayodhya
289.	A 12-metre-high statue of which musical instrument has been installed at the Lata Smriti Chowk? Veena
290.	What is the name of the multi-phase operation launched by CBI to dismantle drug networks with international linkages: Operation Garuda
291.	PR _____ and _____ Punia have been voted FIH Men's and Women's Goalkeeper of the Year for the second year in a row: Sreejesh, Savita
292.	The India Expo Centre and Mart was adjudged the best convention centre by the union ministry of tourism on

Sep 28. It is in which state? Uttar Pradesh, in Greater Noida
293. The Chandigarh International Airport was officially named as _____ International Airport on Sep 28: Shaheed Bhagat Singh
294. Shaheed Bhagat Singh International Airport is a joint venture of Punjab and Haryana government and Airports Authority of India. Who among these is the majority shareholder @51%? Airports Authority of India
295. The Ministry of Home Affairs banned the PFI and its associates for five years, wef Sep 28. Expand PFI: Popular Front of India
296. A NASA spacecraft successfully crashed, as planned, into an asteroid on Sep 27 in a first-of-its-kind mission. What was the name of this mission? DART
297. Expand the acronym DART: Double Asteroid Redirection Test
298. In a major first, in which place the Integrated Cryogenic Engine manufacturing facility of Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd was inaugurated on Sep 27? Bengaluru
299. Giorgia Meloni became the first female Prime Minister of which European country on Sep 27? Italy
300. The Rural Development Ministry launched the _____ App on Sep 27 to capture the water level of selected wells in a village across the country: Jaldoot
301. Government has decided to extend PMGKAY (Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana) for a period of three months, till what date? December 31, 2022
302. The Supreme Court began live streaming of its proceedings for the public from Sep 27 for which of its benches? Constitution Benches
303. In a landmark verdict on Sep 27, the Supreme Court directed to remove all business activities within 500 metres from the boundary/peripheral wall of which iconic world heritage monument? The Taj Mahal
304. Nikhil Kamath, co-founder of stock broking startup _____, topped the IIFL Wealth Hurun India 40 & Under Self-Made Rich List: Zerodha
305. Who has been declared as the winner of the 2020 Dada Saheb Phalke Award? Veteran actress Asha Parekh
306. What is the amount of cash reward given with the Dada Saheb Phalke Award? Rs. ten lakh
307. What is the name of the trophy given with the Dada Saheb Phalke Award? Swarna Kamal
308. Prince Mohammed bin Salman has been appointed as the Prime Minister of which Arabian nation? Saudi Arabia
309. Who is the only Indian to be listed in the Time magazine's top 100 global rising stars, worldwide? Akash Ambani, Chairman of Jio
310. Researchers from which country discovered a new type of crystal from the volcanic debris brought down from the near side of the moon? China
311. For the first time in India, indigenously-developed AVGAS 100 LL was launched on Sep 25. What is it? Aviation fuel
312. As per the India Tourism Statistics-2022, which state received the highest number of foreign tourist visitors? Maharashtra
313. Who is the winner of 32nd Bihari Puraskar: Dr Madhav Hada

314.	The prestigious Bihari Puraskar is awarded to Hindi authors from state of _____ only: Rajasthan
315.	India reached a milestone on Sep 22 by successfully demonstrating the attack capability of an advanced ALS 50. What type of weapon is it? Drone
316.	The Indian Army and Defence Geoinformatics and Research Establishment, jointly installed India's first avalanche monitoring radar on Sep 20 at which place? North Sikkim
SEPTEMBER 2022	
1.	September 30 is observed as the International Translation Day. Who is regarded as the patron saint of translators? St. Jerome
2.	Which International organisation supports the celebrations of the World Maritime Day on Last Thursday of September? International Maritime Organisation
3.	Headquarters of International Maritime Organisation are situated in which city? London
4.	What is the theme of this year's World Heart Day celebrated on Sep 29? Use Heart for Every Heart
5.	_____ became the first lender to get RBI's approval for rupee based trade settlements: UCO Bank
6.	The UCO Bank will open a special Vostro account with which Russian bank for trade settlement in Indian rupees? Gazprom Bank
7.	Headquarters of UCO Bank are situated in which city? Kolkata
8.	World Rabies Day is observed on which day of September? 28th
9.	The official celebrations for this year's World Tourism Day on Sep 27 will be held in which city? Bali, Indonesia
10.	Which global rating agency issued the Economic Outlook for Asia Pacific report on Sep 26? S&P Global Ratings
11.	Duleep trophy is associated with which sport? Cricket
12.	Which team won the Duleep Trophy for 2022 on Sep 25? West Zone
13.	Name the two-time Olympics champion who created a new world record in the Berlin Marathon on Sep 25: Eliud Kipchoge
14.	Eliud Kipchoge hails from which country? Kenya
15.	What is the nickname given to Jhulan Goswami, complimenting her high bowling speed? Chakdaha Express
16.	Recently, which public sector company was granted the status of 'Maharatna' on Sep 22? Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd.
17.	Registered office of Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd. is located in ____? New Delhi
18.	As on date, there are how many Maharatna enterprises in India? 12
19.	The Breakthrough Prizes are the world's most lucrative monetary awards for achievements in science. What is the amount of a single Breakthrough Prize? US Dollar Three million
20.	Breakthrough Prizes are awarded in three fields -- fundamental physics, mathematics, and ____: Life sciences
21.	They are awarded by which organisation? Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences Board

22.	Who has been elected as the President of Hockey India, governing body of Hockey in India? Dilip Tirkey
23.	World Rivers Day is observed on ____ Sunday of September: Last
24.	Which Sunday of September is observed as the Happy Daughters' Day? Fourth
25.	Antyodaya Diwas on Sep 25 marks the birth anniversary of which prominent national leader? Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya
26.	What is theme of this year's International Day of Sign Languages? Sign Languages Unite Us!
27.	The Hindustan Shipyard Limited handed over to the Indian Navy two ____ vessels, Nistar and Nipun on September 22: Diving support
28.	The Hindustan Shipyard Limited is located at which place? Visakhapatnam
29.	Which Indian state is home to largest number of Greater one-horned Rhinos? Assam
30.	Which National Park is home to largest number of Greater one-horned Rhinos? Kaziranga National Park, Assam
31.	Celebration of World Rose Day on Sep 22 is associated with which dreaded disease? Cancer
32.	Which project of National Health Mission won an award at an UN General Assembly side event on Sep 21? India Hypertension Control Initiative
33.	What is the theme selected for this year's International Day of Peace or World Peace Day observed on Sep 21? End racism. Build peace
34.	The World Alzheimer's Day is observed on Sep 21. Alzheimer is associated with which ailment? Gradual loss of memory
35.	Which state notified the country's first 'Dugong Conservation Reserve' on Sep 21? Tamil Nadu
36.	Country's first 'Dugong Conservation Reserve' has been opened in which area? Palk Bay near Rameswaram
37.	The Centre formed a high-level committee on Sep 21 headed by Dr. VK Paul, for what purpose? To review marketing practices of pharmaceutical companies
38.	Name the Comedy King who made a mark as a stand-up comedian, died on Sep 21: Raju Srivastav
39.	Which state allowed Adani Ports to develop a mega greenfield deep-sea port at Tajpur? West Bengal
40.	The Skill Certification Assessment for Leather Employees (SCALE) app was launched on Sep 20 at the Central Leather Research Institute in ____: Chennai
41.	The World Bank approved a loan of \$ 150 million on Sep 20 to which Indian state for better management of its financial resources and improved access to public services? Punjab
42.	What type of warship was INS Ajay that was decommissioned on September 19? Anti-submarine warfare corvette
43.	What is a corvette in context of Navy: Small warship
44.	Which team won the SAFF Women's Football Championship? Bangladesh
45.	Which country hosted the SAFF Women's Football Championship? Nepal
46.	Which Indian film has been announced as India's official entry to the Oscars 2023? Chhello Show

47.	Chhello Show is a film made in which language? Gujarati
48.	What is the English title of the film 'Chhello Show'? Last Film Show
49.	Name of the capital of Kazakhstan has been changed from Nur Sultan to _____: Astana
50.	Coast Guard ships from India and America conducted joint exercise _____ from Sep 16 to 19: Abhyas 01/22
51.	Abhyas 01/22 was conducted at which place? Off the Chennai coast
52.	On Sep 18, The Indian Army activated satellite broadband-based internet service on the _____, the world's highest battlefield: Siachen Glacier
53.	India is the world's _____ largest cultivator of bamboo: Second
54.	Which UN Agency supports the celebration of the International Equal Pay Day on Sep 18? ILO - International Labour Organisation
55.	Typhoon Nanmadol devastated Kyushu Island on Sep 18 in which country? Japan
56.	Name the Indian male wrestler who was the sole medal winner among men at the World Wrestling Championships held at Belgrade, Serbia: Bajrang Punia
57.	Durand Cup is associated with which sport? Football
58.	Which city hosted the finals of the Durand Cup on Sep 18? Kolkata
59.	Which team won the 2022 Durand Cup? Bengaluru FC
60.	Creating a milestone in the wildlife scenario of India, how many Cheetahs were introduced in the Kuno National Park on Sep 17? Eight
61.	Kuno National Park is situated in which Indian State? Madhya Pradesh
62.	Cheetahs introduced in the Kuno National Park were brought from which country? Namibia
63.	The Ministry of _____ revised the threshold for paid up capital and turnover of small companies: Corporate Affairs
64.	Which champion para javelin thrower secured a silver medal in the World Para Athletics Grand Prix, in Morocco on Sep 17? Devendra Jhajharia
65.	International Coastal Clean-up Day is observed on which Saturday of September? Third
66.	What was the theme selected for World Patient Safety Day on Sep 17? Medication Safety
67.	Which Indian industrialist was honoured with Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur on Sep 16? Dr Swati Piramal
68.	Dr Swati Piramal is the vice chairperson of which corporate group? Piramal Group
69.	India's first lithium cell manufacturing facility was inaugurated on Sep 16 at which place in Andhra Pradesh? Tirupati
70.	Which corporate group became largest in India in terms of market capitalisation as on close of business on BSE on Sep 16? Adani Group
71.	World Ozone Day is observed on which date? Sep 16
72.	The Indian Army conducted this 20-day long routine exercise in eastern Ladakh in September? Parvat Prahar Exercise
73.	Ozone Layer is formed mainly in the lower portion of the _____, at approximately 15 to 35 kilometres above Earth: Stratosphere

74.	Which country signed a MoU on Sep 16 to become the ninth full member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)? Iran
75.	Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the 22 nd SCO Summit on 15-16 Sep at _____ in Uzbekistan: Samarkand
76.	Which country has taken over the rotational Presidency of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation -SCO for 2022-23? India
77.	Which day of September is denoted for celebrating International Day of Democracy? 15th
78.	India celebrates the Engineer's Day on Sep 15 to mark the birth anniversary of which acclaimed civil engineer? M. Visvesvaraya
79.	Bharat Ratna M Visvesvaraya excelled in which field of civil engineering? Dams and hydro projects
80.	Which company topped in the Kantar BrandZ Top 75 Most Valuable Indian Brands 2022 report released on Sep 14? TCS - Tata Consultancy Services
81.	Who became the first Indian woman wrestler to win two medals at the World Championships after clinching a bronze in the 53 kilogram category on Sep 14? Vinesh Phogat
82.	Final match of SAFF under-17 Football Championship (men's) was played on Sep 14 in which city? Colombo
83.	India defeated which team to win the SAFF under-17 Football Championship? Nepal
84.	Hindi Diwas on Sep 14 commemorates the adoption of Hindi as the official language of India on this day in which year? 1949
85.	Which two companies have joined hands to set up India's largest semiconductor and display manufacturing unit? Vedanta and Foxconn
86.	Foxconn Company is registered in which country? Taiwan
87.	This mega plant is being set up in which Indian state? Gujarat
88.	What was the name of the two week long multi nation maritime exercise hosted by Australia, beginning Sep 13? Ex Kakadu
89.	Which Armed Force recently launched its all-female camel riding squad? BSF
90.	Indian Navy's INS Tarkash participated in a Joint Maritime Exercise with Nigerian Navy Patrol Ships on Sep 12-13 in which area? Gulf of Guinea
91.	Gulf of Guinea is located in which part of the world? South of Nigeria, in Atlantic Ocean south west of Africa
92.	_____ became the first bank in India to issue an Electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG): HDFC Bank
93.	The person at whose request the bank issues a BG, is known as: Applicant
94.	Who is the 'beneficiary' in the process of issuance of BG? Govt Deptt/Company in whose favour the BG is issued
95.	_____ has become the first Indian institution to join the IBM Quantum Network in USA: IIT Madras
96.	India's first National Maritime Heritage Complex is coming up at the historic Indus Valley civilisation region of Lothal in which state? Gujarat

97.	_____ topped the states in the implementation of Prime Minister's ambitious Mission Amrit Sarovar: Uttar Pradesh
98.	Public sector shipbuilder Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd. Mumbai, launched 'Taragiri', the third Nilgiri class _____ of Project 17A on Sep 11: Stealth Frigate
99.	15 th Asia Cup (Men's T20 cricket) was hosted by which country? UAE
100.	Sri Lanka defeated which country to lift their 6th Asia Cup title? Pakistan
101.	Finals of the 15 th Asia Cup were played in which place? Dubai
102.	What was the name of the joint operation of India and Japan navies that began on Sep 11? JIMEX 22
103.	JIMEX 22 was held at which place? In Bay of Bengal, near Visakhapatnam
104.	The National Forest Martyrs Day on Sep 11 marks the massacre of over 360 people for opposing felling of Khejri trees in which state? Rajasthan
105.	Last Grand Slam of Tennis, US Open concluded on Sep 11 in which city? New York
106.	Who won men's Singles title at the US Open? Carlos Alcaraz
107.	Carlos Alcaraz hails from which country? Spain
108.	After the end of US Open, who became the youngest world number one in men's tennis? Carlos Alcaraz
109.	Name the women's number one tennis player who won the single's title at the US Open: Iga Swiatek
110.	Iga Swiatek hails from which country? Poland
111.	Name the Shankaracharya of the Dwarka-Sharda Peeth who passed away on Sep 11: Swami Swaroopanand Saraswati
112.	World First Aid Day is observed annually on second _____ of September: Saturday
113.	What was the theme of the World First Aid Day observed on September 10? Lifelong First Aid
114.	Which day of September is observed as the World Suicide Prevention Day? 10th
115.	Name the veteran archaeologist who died at his Delhi residence on Sep 10 at the age of 101: Prof B B Lal
116.	Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park secured first rank among 150 zoos of India. It is located in which place? Darjeeling
117.	Which veteran tennis icon from Switzerland, announced his retirement from professional tennis at the age of 41? Roger Federer
118.	September 09 is observed as World EV Day. Which company is the largest electric car seller in the world? BYD Co. Ltd., China
119.	Which multi-nation organisation released the Human Development Index-2021 on Sep 08? UNDP - United Nations Development Programme
120.	Which country topped the Human Development Index-2021? Switzerland
121.	India was placed at which spot in the HDI 2021? 132nd
122.	Celebration of the International Literacy Day on Sep 8 is supported by which UN agency? UNESCO
123.	Who became the first Indian to win a gold at the Diamond League Final 2022 in Switzerland? Neeraj Chopra

124.	Which Indian state won the International Travel Award 2023 for 'Best Destination for Culture'? West Bengal
125.	The Indian Army and the DRDO successfully tested the quick reaction surface-to-air missile. What is its strike range? 30 km
126.	Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Kartavya Path on Sep 08 in New Delhi. What is its approximate length? Three km
127.	What is the name of the country's first national electric freight platform launched on Sep 8 by NITI Aayog, in collaboration with World Resources Institute? E-FAST
128.	What is the full expansion of e-FAST? Electric Freight Accelerator for Sustainable Transport
129.	International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies is celebrated on which day of September? Seventh
130.	Karim Benzema, winner of UEFA Player of the Year prize, Men's, is from which country? France
131.	Alexia Putellas, winner of UEFA Player of the Year prize, women's, plays for which Football Club? FC Barcelona
132.	The government has set up a panel headed by _____ to review the formula that dictates the pricing of natural gas: Dr. Kirit S Parikh
133.	What is the theme of this year's International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies? The Air We Share
134.	Name the 35 year old left handed Indian batsman who announced his retirement on Sep 06 from all formats of cricket: Suresh Raina
135.	The Indian Science Technology and Engineering facilities Map (I-STEM) launched WEST mission on Sep 5. Expand WEST: Women in Engineering, Science & Technology
136.	Daihatsu Yonex Japan Open Badminton Championship was hosted by which city in first week of September? Osaka
137.	What is the name of the India's first intranasal Covid vaccine approved by CDSCO on Sep 05? inCOVACC
138.	inCOVACC has been manufactured by which pharma company? Bharat Biotech, Hyderabad
139.	What is the full form of CDSCO? Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation
140.	Name the Prime Minister of Bangladesh who arrived in New Delhi on September 5, on a four-day official visit: Sheikh Hasina
141.	The 5.13 km Rupsha rail bridge over the river Rupsha has been inaugurated in which country? Bangladesh
142.	International Day of Charity on Sep 05 marks the death anniversary of which revered saint? Saint Mother Teresa
143.	Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan was the first _____ of India: Vice President
144.	On which date we observe World Teachers' Day? October 05
145.	Country's first modified bio-village, Daspara, has been developed in which state? Tripura
146.	Grandmaster Aravindh Chithambaram emerged champion in the 22 nd _____ Open chess tournament held in Dubai on Sep 04: Dubai
147.	India hosted the first-ever official UCI MTB (International Cyclist Union- Mountain Bike) event on Sep 04 in which place? Leh, Ladakh
148.	What is the name of the mascot for the 36 th National Games that was unveiled on Sep 04? Savaj

149.	Savaj has been modelled after which animal? Small lion
150.	Name the business tycoon who once headed the Tata Group, died in a road accident on Sep 04: Cyrus Mistry
151.	ISRO successfully demonstrated a new technology with IAD. What is IAD? Inflatable Aerodynamic Decelerator
152.	The IAD was launched overboard which sounding rocket? Rohini
153.	The IAD was launched from ____ Equatorial Rocket Launching Station in Kerala: Thumba
154.	Army's Kharga Corps and the Air Force conducted joint exercise 'Gagan Strike' in first week of September in which state? Punjab
155.	Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilisers granted 'in-principle' approval to the three States viz, Himachal Pradesh, ____ and Andhra Pradesh for setting up of Bulk Drug Parks: Gujarat
156.	India's first 'Dark Sky Reserve' or Night Sky Sanctuary is to be set up in which place? In Henley in the Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary
157.	The Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state/UT? Ladakh
158.	How many Indian cities joined the UNESCO's Global Network of Learning Cities recently? Three
159.	Of these three cities, which one is from Telangana? Warangal
160.	International Vulture Awareness Day is observed on first ____ of September? Saturday
161.	Presence of residuals of which medicine in cattle carcasses caused en-masse death of vultures in India in 1990s? Diclofenac
162.	World Coconut Day is observed on Sep 02. India is ____ largest producer of coconuts, producing over 20.3 billion nuts annually: The (top)
163.	The Indian Navy received its new Naval Ensign (flag) on September 02. What is the shape of the seal that occupies the right half of the flag? Octagonal
164.	The octagonal seal is inspired from the seal of which great Indian Emperor? Shivaji Maharaj
165.	What is the motto of the Indian Navy? "Sam no Varunah" (सं नो वरुणः)
166.	The Indian Army contingent of the Gorkha Regiment troops took part in the Exercise Vostok - 2022 in which country? Russia
167.	Which major sector of economy registered highest growth of 25.7% in Qr. ending June 30? Services
168.	Which space telescope captured the first image of an Exoplanet, a planet-like body lying outside the realm of our Solar System? James Webb Telescope
169.	The ADB approved a loan of Rs. 4,000 crore to which state for setting up medical colleges? Maharashtra
170.	As per IMF data, India leaped past which country to become the fifth-largest economy in the world? United Kingdom
171.	Which film won the Filmfare award for the Best Film? Shershaah
172.	Who was honoured with this year's Filmfare Lifetime Achievement Award: Subhash Ghai, noted film producer

173.	Which apex agency released the "Competitiveness Roadmap for India@100" on August 30? Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister
174.	Who is the current head of the Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister? Dr Bibek Debroy
175.	Miss Divita Rai, the 23-year-old beauty queen from ____ won the coveted "Miss Diva Universe 2022" title: Karnataka
176.	Ramon Magsaysay Awards are given in which country? Philippines
177.	Which organisation sponsors the Ramon Magsaysay Awards? Rockefeller Brothers Fund, USA
178.	How many Ramon Magsaysay Awards were given this year? Four
179.	The Indian Coast Guard carried out its 10th National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise SAREX-22 at which place? Off the Chennai coast
180.	Name the veteran Russian statesman who ended the Cold War without bloodshed in 1990s, who died on August 30: Mikhail Gorbachev
181.	Gorbachev was famous for which two terms coined by him? Glasnost and Perestroika
182.	What did the terms Glasnost and Perestroika represented? Openness and Restructuring, respectively
183.	According to Bloomberg Billionaires Index, ____ is now the world's third-richest person on August 30: Gautam Adani
184.	Abhijit Sen, veteran Economist, a former member of the Planning Commission (2004-14) and Professor at the JNU's Centre for Economics and Planning, was in news recently, for what reason? He passed away
185.	For the first time in the history of Indian armed forces, the ____ received its first consignment of complete gun ammunition manufactured by local industry: Indian Navy
186.	Whale Sharks are found in large numbers near the coast of which Indian state? Gujarat
187.	Who became the first Indian (and second in world) to have played a hundred matches for India in all the three formats, T20, ODI and test? Virat Kohli
188.	The Indian Army is planning to induct Indigenous Indian Light Tank named ____, designed specially to operate from High Altitude Area: Zorawar
189.	BWF World Championships concluded in ____ on August 28: Tokyo
190.	Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi of India won the 28th ____ Masters Chess Tournament on August 25: Abu Dhabi
191.	Who was awarded this year's Vyas Samman? Dr Asghar Wajahat
192.	What is the cash prize given in the Vyas Samman? Rs. Four lakh
AUGUST 2022	
1.	National Sports Day on August 29 marks the birthday of which great sportsperson? Major Dhyan Chand, Wizard of Hockey
2.	The International Day against Nuclear Tests is observed on which day of August? 29th
3.	Neeraj Chopra won the javelin throw competition on August 26 at the Lausanne Diamond League in which country? Switzerland

4.	Linthoi Chanambam, 15 year old girl from _____, claimed a historic gold on August 26 in the 57 kg category at the World Cadet Judo Championship in Sarajevo: Manipur
5.	Sarajevo is the capital of which country? Bosnia and Herzegovina
6.	Women's Equality Day on August 26 commemorates the granting of voting rights to women in which country? USA
7.	Which UT/State has become the first to establish an Atal Tinkering Lab (ATL) in partnership with the government think tank NITI Aayog? Jammu and Kashmir
8.	The NITI Aayog has declared district _____ in Uttarakhand as India's Best Aspirational District: Haridwar
9.	What is the new common brand name for the fertilisers under the Central Government's 'One Nation, One Fertiliser' scheme? Bharat
10.	Which country recently launched of the world's first-ever hydrogen-powered passenger train fleet? Germany
11.	DRDO and the _____ successfully flight tested indigenously designed and developed Vertical Launch Short Range Surface to Air Missile (VL-SRSAM) on August 23: Indian Navy
12.	India's first commercial "Space Situational Awareness Observatory " is being set up in which state? Uttarakhand
13.	Which Indian chess master, defeated world champion Magnus Carlsen on August 22 in the last round of the FTX Crypto Cup in Miami, USA? R Praggnanandhaa
14.	Vikram Doraiswami, senior diplomat has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to which country? United Kingdom
15.	The Union Government has awarded the Geographical Indication (GI) tag to which agro product of Bihar? Mithila Makhana
16.	Who is the winner of this year's UNESCO Peace Prize? Angela Merkel
17.	India's first indigenously developed Hydrogen Fuel Cell Bus was launched on 21st August in which city? Pune
18.	Who became the new world heavyweight boxing champion on August 21 in rematch held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia? Oleksandr Usyk
19.	Who has been appointed as the Secretary to President Droupadi Murmu, by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet? Rajesh Verma
20.	What was the name of the three-week-long 17 nation military exercise held in the Northern Territory of Australia? Exercise Pitch Black 2022
21.	Which day of August is observed as World Senior Citizens Day? 21st
22.	Mandeep Kaur, Manisha Ramadass and Nithya Sre, all three won individual gold in their respective categories on August 20 at an international event in which sports? Para Badminton
23.	According to the National Health Portal of India, Aedes, Anopheles, and Culex mosquitoes act as _____ and spread many diseases: Vectors

24.	The External Affairs Ministry has announced that the 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas 2023 will be held in _____, Madhya Pradesh: Indore
25.	India observes August 20 as Akshay Urja Diwas. Who is current minister for New & Renewable Energy? Sh. Raj Kumar Singh
26.	Who scripted history on August 19 by becoming the first ever Indian woman wrestler to win a Gold medal in 53 kg category at Under-20 World Wrestling Championship? Antim Panghal
27.	_____ has become the first 'Har Ghar Jal' certified State in the country where every household has been provided water tap connection: Goa
28.	Among UTs, _____ has become first 'Har Ghar Jal' certified UT of the country? Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu
29.	Sadbhavna Diwas on August 20 commemorates birthday of which statesman? Sh. Rajiv Gandhi
30.	Sh. Rajiv Gandhi was India's Prime Minister during which years? 1984 -89
31.	The Central Government launched which app and campaign to promote and support early childhood development? Paalan 1000
32.	The 131st edition of Asia's oldest football tournament, Durand Cup, started on August 16 in which city? Kolkata
33.	What is the name of the Indian Railway's heaviest and longest freight train, test operated on August 15? Super Vasuki
34.	Which zone of Indian Railway recently operated its heaviest and longest freight train, measuring 3.5 km? South East Central Railway
35.	A Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) was held by the Navies of India and Australia from August 15 to 20 in the Indian Ocean near _____, Australia: Perth
36.	Madhya Pradesh's tribal-dominated _____ district has become the country's first fully "functionally literate" district: Mandla
37.	Which UN Office supports celebration of the World Humanitarian Day on August 19? UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
38.	Government has launched Aqua Bazar app on August 18 for what purpose? To promote logistics support for fish farmers
39.	Which Malaysian city will host the prestigious Sultan Azlan Shah Cup 2022? Ipoh
40.	Sultan Azlan Shah Cup is associated with which sports? Hockey
41.	A team of scientists and researchers in _____ developed India's first 3D-printed Cornea: Hyderabad
42.	In a recent report published by the State of Global Air on air quality and health in cities, which two cities have ranked first and second, respectively, in the world? New Delhi and Kolkata
43.	A sister agency of the advertising giant Rediffusion, launched India's own font. What is its name? Bharat
44.	India's first electric double decker AC bus has been launched for public transport in which city? Mumbai
45.	_____ has become the first state in the country to deploy a production-grade blockchain-based seed distribution programme: Jharkhand

46.	The Union Cabinet approved interest subvention of 1.5% on Short Term Agriculture Loans upto Rs. ____ lakh: Three
47.	Name the veteran stock market investor, popular as the “Big Bull of Dalal Street”, who passed away on August 14 in Mumbai: Rakesh Jhunjhunwala
48.	Asia's largest Compressed Biogas (CBG) plant began its commercial operations on August 13 at village Bhuttal Kalan in ____, Punjab: Sangrur
49.	What is the main raw material consumed by the CBG plant in Bhuttal Kalan? Paddy straw and stubble
50.	Indian Air Force conducted Ex Udarshakti with which country, beginning on August 13? Malaysia
51.	World Sanskrit Day is observed annually on the Poonima of which month of the Hindu calendar? Shravana (Sawan)
52.	India added 11 more wetlands to the list of Ramsar sites on August 13, to make a total ____ Ramsar sites in India: 75
53.	Government has launched National Integrated Database on Arrested Narco-offenders. What is its short name? NIDAAN
54.	World Organ Donation Day is observed on which day of August? 13th
55.	India celebrates its own National Organ Donation Day on which date? November 27
56.	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment launched the project “SMILE” on August 12 for what purpose? To make cities and towns free from beggars
57.	What is the full expansion of the acronym SMILE? Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise
58.	International Youth Day is observed on which date? August 12
59.	India celebrates her own National Youth Day on which Date? January 12
60.	Which species of Elephants is regarded as the largest land animal? African Elephant
61.	Which Indian state has the largest number of Elephants? Karnataka
62.	Which country has the largest number of elephants? Botswana
63.	Which university has been ranked first among Indian Universities in the latest Nature Index 2022 ranking? University of Hyderabad
64.	The French government selected which senior Congress leader for conferring France's highest civilian award Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur? Shashi Thoror
65.	Dr Kalaiselvi N has been appointed as the first woman Director-General of which apex research organisation? Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
66.	CSIR is based at which place? New Delhi
67.	William Ruto won the Presidential election in which African country? Kenya
68.	Which tennis legend, announced her retirement from professional tennis, after playing the forthcoming US Open, starting on August 29? Serena Williams
69.	What is the name of the 3D virtual space tech park launched by the ISRO on August 10? SPARK
70.	August 10 is observed as World Biofuel Day. Name the three most popular bio fuels: Ethanol, Biodiesel and Biogas

71.	August 10 is devoted to raise awareness for the protection and conservation of which wild animal? Lion
72.	Which Indian state has largest population of Lions? Gujarat
73.	Apart from August 10, which other date is observed as National Deworming Day? February 10
74.	Which anti worm tablet is administered orally to children on National Deworming Day? Albendazole
75.	Assam government signed a joint statement on August 9 with which state to resolve boundary dispute with that state? Mizoram
76.	Singapore government declared on August 9, the iconic green site ____, as its 75th national monument: Padang
77.	International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples observed on August 09 is popularly also known as World ____ Day: Tribal
78.	The 44th FIDE Chess Olympiad hosted by Chennai, concluded on August 9. Which nation won the gold in the open section? Uzbekistan
79.	India won which medal in the open section of 44th FIDE Chess Olympiad? Bronze
80.	Which team won the gold in women's section in the 44th FIDE Chess Olympiad? Ukraine
81.	The International Chess Federation granted hosting rights for the 2026 Chess Olympiad to which country? Uzbekistan
82.	The Union Cabinet approved the continuation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U) up to which date? December 31, 2024
83.	PMAY-U is the flagship programme of which union ministry? Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
84.	Who is the current head of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs? Sh. Hardeep Singh Puri
85.	Which state notified its 5th Elephant Reserve at Agasthyamalai in Tirunelveli district? Tamil Nadu
86.	What is the name of the India's first Saline Water Lantern which uses the sea water to power the specially designed LED lamps? Roshni
87.	Gustavo Petro has been sworn in as the President of which country? Colombia
88.	What was the name of the 13th edition of the Indo-US Joint Special Forces exercise that started on August 8? Ex Vajra Prahar 2022
89.	Who became the first cricketer on August 8 to play 600 matches in T20 cricket? Kieron Pollard
90.	India won how many gold medals in the Commonwealth Games concluded on August 8? 22
91.	Lovely Choubey, Pinki, Nayanmoni Saikia, Rupa Rani Tirkey, all four won India's first gold in which event at the Commonwealth Games? Women's Lawn Bowls
92.	In which sports Indian players won highest number – 7 gold medals, in the Commonwealth Games? Wrestling
93.	Which state hosted the Ex Vajra Prahar 2022? Himachal Pradesh
94.	Which city hosted the SAFF U20 Football Championship: Bhubaneswar, Odisha
95.	India trounced which country to win the SAFF U20 Football Championship: Bangladesh
96.	Which city in Maharashtra has become the first in the country to witness the official release of the

	Environmental Insights Explorer (EIE) data from Google? Aurangabad
97.	Under which exercise the Indian Army tested the operational readiness of its satellite-based systems deployed across the country? Skylight
98.	Name the 16 year old chess prodigy from Chennai who became India's 75th Grand Master on August 07: V Pranav
99.	Viswanathan Anand, Indian chess legend was elected as the _____ of FIDE: Deputy President
100.	Headquarters of the world chess body FIDE are located in which place? Lausanne, Switzerland
101.	Who has been re-elected as the President of FIDE? Arkady Dvorkovich (Russia)
102.	For the first time, a US Navy Ship arrived at L&T's Shipyard on August 07 for what purpose? For undertaking necessary repairs and allied services
103.	This shipyard of L&T is located at which place? Kattupalli, Chennai
104.	August Kranti Diwas on August 8 marks which historical event? Launch of Quit India Movement by Mahatma Gandhi in 1942
105.	Quit India Movement was launched at which session of All-India Congress Committee? Bombay
106.	Celebration of the National Handloom Day on August 07 marks which historical event? Launch of Swadeshi Movement in 1905
107.	Swadeshi Movement was launched from which city? Kolkata
108.	Which national awards are given to honour artisans and weavers on the National Handloom Day? Sant Kabir Awards
109.	NDA candidate Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar was elected as the _____ Vice-President of India on August 6: 14th
110.	Sh. Dhankhar was administered the oath of office by constitutional authority? Hon'ble President, Ms. Draupadi Murmu
111.	Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar hails from which place in Rajasthan? Jhunjhunu
112.	Before becoming Vice President, sh. Dhankhar was the Governor of which state? West Bengal
113.	Election of the Vice President of India is conducted under which article of the Indian Constitution? Article 66
114.	Who was declared as the AIFF Men's Footballer of the Year, 2021-22 for the seventh time? Sunil Chhetri
115.	Who won her maiden title as the AIFF Women's Footballer of the Year, 2021-22? Manisha Kalyan
116.	What was the nickname of the Atom bomb dropped on Hiroshima in 1945? Little Boy
117.	Dropping of nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki is associated with which landmark historical event? End of World War II
118.	Who made history on August 05 by winning India's first ever medal in canoeing at the 2022 ICF Canoe Sprint World Championships? Pooja Ojha
119.	Which Indian corporate got highest rank, 98 th , in the latest 2022 Fortune Global 500 list? LIC of India
120.	Which global company secured the top spot for the ninth consecutive year, in the latest 2022 Fortune Global 500 list? Walmart Inc., USA

121.	Women officers of which force created history by completing the first-ever all-women independent maritime reconnaissance and surveillance mission in the North Arabian Sea onboard a Dornier 228 aircraft? Indian Navy
122.	President of _____ Ibrahim Mohamed Solih arrived in New Delhi on August 1 on a four day official visit: Maldives
123.	PM Modi announced a Line of Credit of \$ _____ million for Maldives, for the completion of development projects in a time-bound manner: 100
124.	The Union Cabinet has approved India's updated Nationally Determined _____, NDC to be communicated to the UNFCCC: Contribution
125.	What is the full form of UNFCCC? United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
126.	The government launched the SURE scheme on August 03 to augment the research capabilities in state and private universities and colleges. Write full form of SURE: State University Research Excellence
127.	The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved highest ever FRP of sugarcane at Rs. 305 per quintal for sugar season 2022-23. What is FRP? Fair and Remunerative Price
128.	Who has been sworn in as the Central Vigilance Commissioner on August 03? Suresh N Patel
129.	The UN General Assembly adopted a resolution on July 28 that declares access to a "_____ environment" a universal human right: Clean, healthy and sustainable
130.	On July 23, the WHO Director-General declared the escalating global monkeypox outbreak as a "Public Health _____ of International Concern": Emergency
131.	As per the WHO reports, _____ is the current epicenter of the outbreak of monkeypox: Europe
132.	The Agricultural Census (2021-22) was launched in the country on July 28. It was which number in series? Eleventh
133.	Muslim Women's Rights Day on August 01 marks which historical event in India? Enactment of the law against Triple Talaq on this day in 2019
134.	World Lung Cancer Day is observed on which date? August 01
135.	The Parliament passed the Indian Antarctic Bill, 2022 on August 1. What are the names of India's two research centres in Antarctica? Bharti and Maitree
136.	The government received bids worth Rs 1,49,855 crore after 23 rounds of bidding for 5G spectrum. This amount has to be paid over a period of how many years? Twenty, in equated annual installments
137.	Nifty futures contracts on Singapore Exchange (SGX) was launched for trading at the International Financial Service Centre (IFSC) in which place in India? At GIFT City near Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
138.	India's first international bullion exchange was inaugurated on July 29 at which place? GIFT City near Gandhinagar, Gujarat
139.	What was the name of the joint military exercise between Indian Army and the Royal Army of Oman, held from August 01 to 13? Exercise AL NAJAH -IV
140.	Exercise AL NAJAH -IV was held at which place? Mahajan Field Firing Range in Bikaner, Rajasthan

141.	With which country India hosted the bilateral army exercise "Ex VINBAX 2022" from August 01 to 20? Vietnam
142.	Ex-VINBAX 2022 was hosted by India at which place? Chandimandir cantonment, near Panchkula, Haryana
143.	As per recent rankings released by Kantar India on July 28 for FMCG brands, which was the most chosen brand? Parle biscuits
144.	What is the full form of FMCG? Fast Moving Consumer Goods
145.	As per the Kotak Private Banking-Hurun's Leading Wealthy Women list released on July 27, who is the richest woman in India? Roshni Nadar Malhotra
146.	Roshni Nadar Malhotra is the CEO of which corporate group? HCL Technologies
147.	Which company delivered the first lot of the indigenously developed Quick Reaction Fighting Vehicles (QRFVs) to the Indian Army? Tata Advanced Systems
148.	What is the name of the first two helicopters of a lot of 24 helicopters received by the Indian Navy from USA on July 28? MH-60 R (Romeo)
149.	Which US company manufactures the MH-60 R (Romeo) helicopters? Lockheed Martin Corp., USA
150.	Which shipyard handed over India's first indigenously built aircraft carrier Vikrant, to the Indian Navy on July 28? Cochin Shipyard, Kerala
151.	What is the official slogan for the 2024 Paris Olympics? Games wide open
152.	Who created history by becoming the first ever Indian to win Gold in the Greco-Roman U-17 World Wrestling Championship in Rome, Italy? Suraj Vashishth
153.	Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) was conducted between Japan Maritime Self Defence Force and Indian Navy in ____? The Andaman Sea
154.	In which neighbouring country of India, for the first time, women outnumbered men in its total population? Bangladesh
155.	Of the five partners jointly running the International Space Station- ISS, which country has announced to quit the project after 2024? Russia
JULY 2022	
1.	The World Ranger Day is observed on which day of July? 31st
2.	Which UN agency supports the celebration of World Day Against Trafficking in Persons on July 30? UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
3.	Which city hosted the 44 th FIDE Chess Olympiad that started on July 28? Chennai
4.	City of Ramsar is located in which country? Iran
5.	For which state the Asian Development Bank approved a \$96.3 million loan for funding of safe drinking water and sanitation projects? Himachal Pradesh.
6.	Indian Olympics Association approved which state as the host for the 36 th National Games to be held between Sep 27 and Oct 10 this year? Gujarat
7.	What is the theme of this year's World Hepatitis Day? Hepatitis can't wait
8.	Success of which military operation on July 26 in 1999 sealed Indian victory over Pakistan in Kargil war? Operation Vijay

9.	The Kargil War Memorial is located at which place in Ladakh? Drass
10.	The International Cricket Council (ICC) announced that ____ will host the 2025 ICC Women's ODI World Cup: India
11.	Which Indian national has been appointed by the World Bank as its Chief Economist and Senior Vice President for Development Economics? Indermit Gill
12.	Which Indian State has largest number of Tigers? Madhya Pradesh
13.	Income Tax Day on July 24 marks which event in the history? Introduction of Income tax in 1860
14.	National Broadcasting Day on July 23 marks which event in broadcasting history of India? First ever radio broadcast in 1927
15.	The first ever radio broadcast in India was made from which radio station in 1927? Bombay station
16.	All India Radio functions under which apex organisation? Prasaar Bharti
17.	Which US city hosted the World Athletics Championships from July 15 to 24? Eugene
18.	Who won this year's Tour de France cycling marathon? Jonas Vingegaard
19.	Jonas Vingegaard hails from which country? Denmark
20.	The 68 th National Film Awards were announced on July 22. These are administered by which organisation? Directorate of Film Festivals
21.	Name the noted film producer who headed the jury for the 68 th National Film Awards: Vipul Shah
22.	Which film won the National Award for Best Feature Film? Soorai Pottru
23.	Film Soorai Pottru has been made in which language? Tamil
24.	Film Toolsidas Junior was in news recently for which reason? It won the National Award for the Best Hindi Film
25.	Which district of Madhya Pradesh became the first district in the country where all people from each of 254 villages have access to safe drinking water through tap? Burhanpur
26.	Which two European countries were in news recently for being ravaged by devastating wildfires? Greece and Turkey
27.	Neeraj Chopra won which medal in World Athletics Championships? Silver
28.	Which US state was devastated by widespread severe wildfires in third week of July? California
29.	Which Indian state has largest area under Mangrove forests? West Bengal
30.	The central government amended the Flag Code of India on July 20 for what purpose? To allow the hoisting of national flag during night also
31.	What is the theme of this year's World Brain Day observed on July 22? Brain Health for all
32.	Which exquisite mango breed costs nearly Rs. 2.5 to 3 lakh per kg in Japan? Miyazaki
33.	_____ Gunawardena was appointed Sri Lanka's new Prime Minister on July 22: Dinesh
34.	Madam Droupadi Murmu was elected as the ____ President of India on July 21: 15th

35.	Which state topped among major states in the India Innovation Index 2022 released by the NITI Aayog on July 21? Karnataka
36.	According to Forbes' Real-Time Billionaires List as of July 21, for the first time, an Indian business tycoon was ranked fourth richest in world. Who is he? Gautam Adani
37.	Which country's passport is most powerful as per the World's Most Powerful Passports 2022 list released by the Henley Passport Index on July 20? Japan
38.	What is the rank of India's passport in the Henley Passport Index? 87th
39.	Ranil Wickremesinghe was elected as the new Sri Lankan President on July 20. What is his party's name? United National Party
40.	July 20 is observed as Space Exploration Day to commemorate which landmark event? First human landing on Moon in 1969
41.	Who was the first human being to step on moon's surface? Neil Armstrong of USA
42.	July 20 is observed as World Chess Day. What was the ancient name of Chess in India? Chaturanga
43.	The International Chess Federation (FIDE) is based in which city? Lausanne, Switzerland
44.	_____ has become the first 100 per cent Landlord Major Port of India: Jawaharlal Nehru Port, Mumbai
45.	What is meant by Landlord Port? All its berths are operated on PPP mode
46.	What is the other popular name for the Jawaharlal Nehru Port? Nhava Sheva Port
47.	The postponed 19th edition of the Asian Games will be held now in September 2023 in which city? Hangzhou, China
48.	Arjun Babuta, Mehuli Ghosh, Shahu Tushar Mane and Paarth Makjija, all won gold in their respective categories, at an international event in which sports? Shooting
49.	Who created history by becoming the first Indian shooter to win the gold medal in the men's skeet event at international level? Mairaj Ahmad Khan
50.	Which large public sector bank recently launched its WhatsApp banking service? State Bank of India
51.	_____ has become India's first state to connect all the commercial vehicles registered in the state with Vehicle Location Tracking Device: Himachal Pradesh
52.	India's first human carrying platform — a pilot-less drone made its debut on July 19 in New Delhi. What is its name? Varuna
53.	The current Flag Code of India was implemented in which year? 2002
54.	The 2028 Summer Olympics and Paralympic Games will be hosted in July, 2028 in which city? Los Angeles, USA
55.	Harshada Garud, 18 year old girl, clinched the gold on July 18 in an international event in which sports? Weightlifting
56.	Name the England all-rounder and captain of the test team, who announced retirement from ODI Cricket on July 18: Ben Stokes
57.	The World Bank has approved a loan of one billion dollars to provide support to India's flagship PM _____ Health Infrastructure Mission: Ayushman Bharat

58.	Name the 82 year old veteran ghazal singer who passed away in Mumbai on July 18: Bhupinder Singh
59.	Which holy city known for showcasing India's culture and traditions over the ages, will be declared the first "Cultural and Tourism Capital" of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation for 2022-23? Varanasi
60.	Government plans to launch the _____ scheme to achieve contactless, seamless processing of passengers at Airports, based on Facial Recognition Technology: DIGI YATRA
61.	Government has formulated a "National Action Plan for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem" scheme for cleaning of sewers and septic tanks. What is its short name? NAMASTE
62.	July 18 is observed as International Nelson Mandela Day. He was the first black president of which country? South Africa
63.	P V Sindhu clinched Women's Single title of _____ Open on July 16: Singapore
64.	Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa won the Paracin Open 'A' chess tournament 2022 on July 16 in which country? Serbia
65.	What was the name of the submarine that was decommissioned by the Indian Navy on July 16? INS Sindhudhvaj
66.	What is the name of the mascot launched recently by the Department of Consumer Affairs? Jagriti
67.	What is the tagline of the consumer awareness campaign of the Department of Consumer Affairs? Jago Grahak Jago
68.	Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, vice presidential candidate of NDA, hails from which state? Rajasthan
69.	What is the name of the fourth and latest ship of the Indian Navy's 17A Frigates, launched on July 15? Dunagiri
70.	_____ became the first and the only state in the country to have its own internet service: Kerala
71.	Which ministry's website was ranked first among all the Central Ministries Portal in a National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment? Home Affairs
72.	The UIDAI has launched a new mobile app named _____ to perform face authentication through mobile app: AadhaarFaceRd
73.	The 2025 World Athletics Championships will be hosted by which city? Tokyo
74.	_____ has become the first state in the country to have 13 expressways, having a total length of 3,200 kilometres: Uttar Pradesh
75.	What is the name of the 296-km-long Expressway inaugurated on July 16 in Uttar Pradesh? Bundelkhand Expressway
76.	Which Institute / University secured first position as the "overall best" institute in the NIRF 2022 ranking? IIT Madras
77.	The Women and Child Development Ministry issued fresh guidelines for the Mission Vatsalya Scheme. It is associated with which field? Children's welfare
78.	Name the beauty queen from Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, who won the Mrs Universe Divine Title: Pallavi Singh
79.	The Women and Child Development Ministry launched the Mission _____ on July 14 for the safety, security and empowerment of women: Shakti

80.	Which country hosted the first I2U2 summit in virtual mode: USA
81.	What is the full form of the abbreviation I2U2? India-Israel; USA-UAE
82.	Which global organisation released the Global Gender Gap Index for 2022 on July 10? WEF – World Economic Forum
83.	Which country secured first rank in the Global Gender Gap Index for 2022? Iceland
84.	What was India's rank in the recently released Global Gender Gap Index for 2022? 135th
85.	Which Indian space tech startup on July 13, launched India's first rocket factory to make 3D-printed engines end-to-end? Agnikul Cosmos
86.	Who created a new record by becoming the fastest Indian bowler to take 150 ODI wickets? Mohammed Shami
87.	July 14 is observed as Shark Awareness Day. Sharks do not have _____ in their body? Bones
88.	NHAI achieved the world record for constructing the longest double-decker viaduct with a length of 3.14 km in _____, Maharashtra: Nagpur
89.	Which telescope was in news for sending the deepest and sharpest infrared image of the universe till date? James Webb Space Telescope
90.	Who won the men's singles title in the Malaysia Open Badminton Tournament 2022? Viktor Axelsen (Denmark)
91.	_____ has been declared as the host for the 36 th National Games to be held from Sep 27 to Oct 10: Gujarat
92.	India's biggest National Emblem was unveiled on the roof of the new Parliament building on July 11. Its original statue is preserved at which place? Sarnath Museum, Varanasi
93.	How many Dharm Chakras are there at the base of the National Emblem? Four
94.	World Malala Day is observed on July 12. What is the name of the NGO run by Malala? Malala Fund
95.	Malala Fund organisation works in which field? Girls' education
96.	_____ became India's first bank to launch the Metaverse Virtual Lounge and Open Banking Sandbox environment techno features for its customers: Union Bank of India
97.	Charles Leclerc from _____ won the Austrian Grand Prix for the team Ferrari on July 10 at Spielberg, Austria: Monaco
98.	Wimbledon is the only grand slam to be played on _____ court: Grass
99.	Serbian star Novak Djokovic won the men's singles at Wimbledon after beating _____.: Nick Kyrgios
100.	Who won the women's singles at Wimbledon? Elena Rybakina
101.	Elena Rybakina hails from which country? Kazakhstan
102.	Nick Kyrgios hails from which country? Australia
103.	Shinzo Abe, former prime minister of Japan, was shot dead on July 8 in which city of Japan? Nara
104.	Which union ministry is associated with celebration of National Fish Farmers' Day on July 10? Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying

105.	Who is the current head of the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying? Parshottam Rupala
106.	The first India Animal Health Summit 2022 was held 06th July in which city? New Delhi
107.	Who scripted a new world record by becoming the first captain in the history of cricket to win 14 successive T20 Internationals? Rohit Sharma
108.	Rohit Sharma achieved the above record feat by winning match against which team? England
109.	At which place Rohit Sharma won his 14 th successive T20 match? Birmingham, England
110.	Boris Johnson, British prime minister announced his resignation on July 7. He heads which political party? Conservative Party
111.	Uttar Pradesh became the first state to link its ambitious scheme ODOP to the ONDC platform. Mention full form of ODOP and ONDC: One District One Product; Open Network for Digital Commerce
112.	Which union ministry has launched the ONDC platform? Union Commerce Ministry
113.	President of India nominated how many new members to the Rajya Sabha on July 6? Four
114.	Under which article of the Indian Constitution President can nominate 12 members to the Rajya Sabha? Article 80(a)
115.	Portugal co-hosted the 2022 UN Ocean Conference along with which other country, from 27 June to 1 July? Kenya
116.	UN Ocean Conference 2022 was held in which city? Lisbon, Portugal
117.	Which two countries signed the Accession Protocols at the NATO Headquarters in Brussels on July 5? Sweden and Finland
118.	How many countries are member of NATO Group? 30
119.	Headquarters of NATO are in which city? Brussels
120.	Which union ministry released the first edition of 'State Ranking Index for National Food Security Act on July 5? Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
121.	National Food Security Act was passed in which year? 2013
122.	The eligible persons under the National Food Security Act are entitled to receive _____ Kg of foodgrains per person per month at subsidised prices: Five
123.	Which state secured the top rank in the 'State Ranking Index for National Food Security Act'? Odisha
124.	World Zoonoses Day is observed on July 6 to raise awareness for the risk of _____ diseases: Zoonotic
125.	Alfiya Pathan and Gitika, are India's champion girls in which sports? Boxing
126.	The inaugural edition of the Elorda Boxing Cup was held in Nur-Sultan. It is the capital of which country? Kazakhstan
127.	Which type of aircrafts have been inducted in the Naval Air Squadron 324? ALH MK III (MR) helicopters
128.	The Ministry of Commerce and Industry released the "States' Startup Ranking 2021" on July 4. Which state topped the Ranking as best performer? Gujarat
129.	The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management completed the disinvestment process of the Nilachal Ispat Nigam Limited on July 4. It is in which state? Odisha

130.	The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management is part of which union ministry? Ministry of Finance
131.	Which private sector steel company acquired the Nilachal Ispat Nigam Limited for Rs. 12,100 crore? Tata Steel Long Products Limited
132.	Government has decided to transform the Banks Board Bureau into which new institution? Financial Services Institutions Bureau, FSIB
133.	Who has been appointed as the first head of the FSIB? Bhanu Pratap Sharma
134.	Name the 21 year old beauty queen from Karnataka who won the Femina Miss India 2022 crown on July 3: Sini Shetty
135.	Femina Miss India Beauty Contest is run by which corporate group? The Times media group
136.	The amended FCRA rules now allow relatives abroad to send ____ lakh rupees without informing the government: Ten
137.	What is the full form of FCRA? Foreign Contribution Regulation Act
138.	"List of Best Student Cities for 2023" released on June 30 by the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), London, selected ____ as best city for students looking to study abroad: London
139.	On June 29, NASA launched CAPSTONE, a microwave oven-sized CubeSat weighing just 55 pounds (25 kg) from a spaceport outside USA, in which country? New Zealand
140.	Indian Railways achieved the best-ever monthly freight loading of over 125 million tonnes in June this year. Which was the main item carried by Railway? Coal
141.	India's largest floating solar power project, 100 MW Ramagundam Floating Solar PV Project became fully operational on July 01. It is in which state? Telangana
142.	T Raja Kumar, a senior Indian origin diplomat took over as President of Financial Action Task Force (FATF), Paris. He hails from which country? Singapore
143.	The DRDO successfully carried out the maiden flight of India's first unmanned fighter aircraft on July 01 from Aeronautical Test Range at Chitradurga. It is in which state? Karnataka
144.	The International Day of Cooperatives is celebrated across the world on the first ____ of July: Saturday
145.	Who is the current head of the Ministry of Cooperation? Sh. Amit Shah
146.	July 01 is observed as the Chartered Accountants Day. The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) is based in which city? New Delhi
147.	The National Doctor's Day on July 01 marks the birth and death anniversary of which great Indian doctor? Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy, Bharat Ratna
148.	The Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise was held at Pearl Harbour in which place? Near Hawaii Islands, USA
149.	Which day of June is observed as the World Social Media Day? 30th
150.	Ferdinand Marcos Jr. was sworn in as the 17th President of which Southeast Asian country? Philippines

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