

# CURRENT AFFAIRS E-BOOK

DECEMBER 2022

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## Awards and Honours Current Affairs | December 2022

### IIT Madras won Wharton QS Reimagine Education awards 2022

- Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) won Wharton-QS Reimagine Education Awards in Dec 2022.
- It is also referred to as 'the Oscars of Education'.
- The IIT Madras BS in Data Science won Silver in the 'Best Online Program' category, while NPTEL (National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning), a joint initiative of IITs and IISc, won Gold in the 'Lifelong Learning category.'

### Cuban activist Aleida Guevara awarded 1st KR Gouri Amma National Award

- Noted Cuban social worker and human rights advocate, Aleida Guevara has been selected for the first KR Gouri Amma national award on 29 December 2022.
- It was instituted by the K.R. Gouri Amma Foundation.
- Dr. Aleida is also an active member of the Cuban Medical Mission.
- She was awarded for her efforts to rehabilitate differently-abled children and provide debt relief to developing countries.

### Prabhu Chandra Mishra honoured with Atal Samman Award

- Prabhu Chandra Mishra awarded Atal Samman Award for his excellence in field of science & research on 27 December 2022.
- His area of work is StemCell & Regenerative Medicine in infertility.
- He is the President of International Association of StemCell & Regenerative Medicine.
- He also wrote a book on stemcells, called StemCell & Regenerative Medicine in infertility.

### Kura Pokkhir Shunye Ura and Upon Entry Owarded Best Film at KIFF

- Kura Pokkhir Shunye Ura (The Golden Wings of Watercocks) of Bangladesh and Upon Entry of Spain won the Best Film Award at the 28th Kolkata International Film Festival.
- Upon Entry is a film from Spain which is a story about the unexpected interrogation of a couple from Barcelona
- Kura Pokkhir Shunye Ura is a Bangladeshi Film that revolves around the journey of a peasant

### Sahitya Akademi Awards 2022: II

- The award has been given by the union govt for the best literature of every year.



- It was established in 1954.
- Writer M. Rajendran from Tamil Nadu was awarded for his novel 'Kala Pani'.
- Some other winners include:
- Manoj Kumar Goswami: Bhool Satya(Assamese)
- Anuradha Roy: All The Lives We Never Lived(English)
- Badri Narayan: Tumadi Ke Shabd(Hindi)
- Anis Ashfaq: Khwab Saraab(Urdu)

### Sahitya Akademi Awards 2022: I

- The Sahitya Akademi announced the winners of Sahitya Akademi Awards 2022 in 24 Indian languages(including English) on 22 Dec'22.
- Novelist Anuradha Roy, Tamil author M. Rajendran were among 23 litterateurs awarded the Sahitya Akademi Awards for 2022.
- The winners include 7 books of poetry, 6 novel, 2 short stories, 3 dramas/plays, 2 literary criticism and 1 each under autobiographical essays.

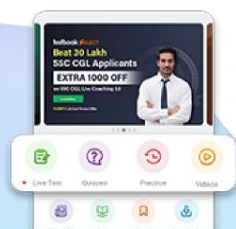
### Sudeep & Shobhana won Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize 2021-22

- The Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize has been jointly won by Sudeep Sen for his genre Anthropocene: Climate Change, Contagion, Consolation and Shobhana Kumar for her haibun collection A Sky Full of Bucket Lists.
- Tagore Prize for social achievement were awarded to SK Roy, producer of the Jaipur Literature Festival.
- It was started in 2018 to recognise literary and social accomplishments.

### Prof. Thalappil Pradeep receives VinFuture special prize 2022

- Indian scientist, Prof. Thalappil Pradeep received VinFuture special prize on 20th Dec 2022 in Hanoi, Vietnam.
- He was awarded for the innovation of a low-cost filtration system to remove arsenic and other heavy metals from groundwater.
- He received the Nikkei Asia Prize in 2020, The World Academy of Sciences Prize in 2018, & the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science & Technology in 2008.

### Beth Mead wins BBC Sports Personality of the Year 2022 Award



- Beth Mead has been awarded the BBC Sports Personality of the Year for 2022 in December 2022.
- She was the player of the tournament and top scorer at Euro 2022.
- Beth Mead defeated Germany in the finals at Wembley to win England's first major women's football trophy.
- England's Cricketer Ben Stokes was second with winter Olympics curling champion Eve Muirhead Third.

### UIDAI bags top data security award for best practices in govt sector

- The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has won the Data Security Council of India's (DSCI) Best Security Practices in Government Sector award on 23 Dec'22.
- It was given to UIDAI during DSCI's Annual Information Security Summit (AISS) in Gurugram for its significant role in securing national critical Aadhaar infrastructure that provides digital identity based welfare services.

### NHPC wins 'Best Globally Competitive Power Company of India' award

- NHPC Limited has been awarded winner of 'Best Globally Competitive Power Company of India' at PRAKASHmay '15th Enertia Awards 2022' on 23 December 2022.
- It was awarded in Hydropower and Renewable Energy Sector category.
- NHPC Limited presently has an installation base of 7071.2 MW from 24 power stations.
- The award is organized by ENERTIA Foundation.
- NHPC Headquarters: Faridabad

### RRR's Naatu Naatu, Last Film Show, among others shortlisted for Oscars

- Four Indian film in different categories have been shortlisted for the Oscars 2023 awards in Dec 2022.
- The shortlisted entry include RRR's Naatu Naatu in the Best Original Song category, Chhello Show or the The Last Show in English in the International Feature Film, All That Breathes in the Documentary Feature Film category and The Elephant Whisperers in the Documentary Short Film category.

### Sethrichem Sangtam gets first Rohini Nayyar prize

- Sethrichem Sangtam, who helped triple the incomes of 1,200 marginalised farmers in Eastern Nagaland, was awarded the first Rohini Nayyar prize for outstanding contribution to rural development.





- Sangtam, 40, was presented with cash prize of Rs 10 lakh, a citation, and trophy.
- The prize has been instituted in memory of Rohini Nayyar, renowned economist who worked with the Planning Commission.

### UIDAI headquarters building wins top Green Building Award

- The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) headquarter in New Delhi has won the prestigious GRIHA Exemplary Performance Award 2022.
- GRIHA (Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment) is a national rating system for green buildings in India.
- It has been declared a winner among the existing highest rated building category.
- In 2021, UIDAI HQ building was adjudged the 2nd rank.

### Shalini Kumari tops in the Grassroots Innovation Competition

- Shalini Kumari from India received first prize in the Grassroots Innovation Competition at the 3rd ASEAN India Grassroots Innovation forum for her innovation 'Modified walker with adjustable legs', on 22 Dec 2022.
- It is organized by the ASEAN Committee on Science, Technology and Innovation (COSTI).
- The 2nd and 3rd prize have been won by innovators from Philippines and Myanmar.

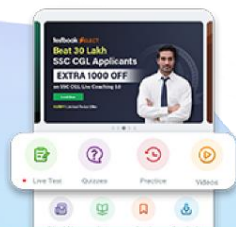
### Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs wins at Digital India Awards 2022

- The Smart Cities Mission, Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs has won the Platinum Icon in the Digital India Awards 2022.
- They have been awarded for their initiative "DataSmart Cities: Empowering Cities through Data".
- The award was announced under the 'Data Sharing and Use for Socio-Economic Development' category.

### Sargam Koushal brings Mrs World 2022 title back to India after 21 yrs

- Sargam Koushal scripted history as she won the Mrs World 2022 title after 21 years while representing India in the beauty pageant.
- Beating contestants from 63 countries, the 32-year-old secured the crown at the event that took place in Las Vegas, in December 2022.
- Mrs Polynesia was named the first runner-up, followed by Mrs Canada as the second runner-up.

### NMDC wins IEI Industry Excellence Award 2022



- National Miner NMDC won the IEI (Institution of Engineers, India) Industry Excellence Award 2022 on 16 Dec 2022 in Chennai.
- The largest producer of the iron ore in the country was felicitated at the 37th Indian Engineering Congress for its outstanding performance and high level of business excellence.
- National Mineral Development Corporation is headquartered in Hyderabad.

## SpiceJet awarded 'Safety Performer of the Year' award by Delhi airport

- SpiceJet won the 'Safety Performer of the Year' award at the annual GMR Delhi Airport Awards in December 2022.
- It was awarded for being the top performer among the self-handling airlines, besides for "its success in reducing ground safety violations".
- Minimizing incidences of ground safety violations play a key role in ensuring compliance with safety guidelines and regulatory requirements.

## India wins 6 gold medals at International Junior Science Olympiad

- India secured the top rank at the 19th International Junior Science Olympiad 2022 held in Bogota, Colombia by winning 6 gold medals.
- Arित्रा Malhotra, Rajdeep Mishra, Devesh Pankaj Bhैया, Banibrata Majee, and Avaneesh Bansal were the students who bagged gold medals at the IJSO 2022, Bogota.
- This is the third successive year and fourth overall that India has topped the medals tally.

## Indian film RRR bags two Golden Globe Award nominations

- SS Rajamouli-directed period movie 'RRR' has been nominated in two categories at the Golden Globe Awards to be held in January 2023.
- The film has been nominated in two categories for Best Non-English Language Film and the film's song 'Naatu-Naatu' for Best Original Song.
- Recently, director SS Rajamouli has also received the New York Film Critics Circle Best Director Award for the film.

## Venkaiah Naidu conferred with SIES Award for public leadership

- Former Vice President Venkaiah Naidu has been conferred with the 25th Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi National Eminence Award.
- Other awardees are Arif Mohammed Khan, Ratan Tata, Dr Marthanda Varma Sankaran Valianathan, Ajay Sood and Vishakha Hari.

- The awards were instituted by the South Indian Education Society in 1998 in memory of the late Seer of Kanchi, Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswati.

### Meghalaya awarded for TB control programme

- Meghalaya government has been awarded for its initiative 'jan andolan' against Tuberculosis at a national workshop on ACSM to end TB in India.
- The award was presented in the category of Best Practice in Advocacy, Communication and Social Mobilisation in Tuberculosis control to representatives of state's health department.
- PM Modi had put a national target to eliminate the disease by 2025.

### McLaughlin-Levrone, Duplantis win World Athlete of the year awards

- World champion American hurdler Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone and Swedish pole vaulter Armand Duplantis, have won the World Athlete of the Year awards.
- McLaughlin-Levrone broke the world women's 400m hurdles record twice while Duplantis set three world highs in 2022.
- Duplantis claimed the award for the 2nd time in 3 years with his three world records plus the men's world indoor title in March.

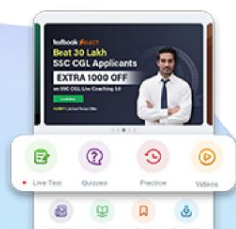
### Jamnalal Bajaj Award 2022 announced

- The Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation has announced the winners of the Jamnalal Bajaj award 2022.
- The Foundation gives 4 awards in different categories.
- Three are given to Indians and one award, for promoting Gandhian values outside is given to a foreigner.
- The Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation was established in 1977.
- Jamnalal Bajaj was among the stalwarts of India's freedom movement.

### Indian-origin Veena Nair awarded Prime Minister's prize in Australia

- Indian-origin teacher in Australia received PM's Prize for Excellence in Science Teaching in secondary schools in Dec 2022.
- She is ViewBank College's Head of Technology and STEAM project leader and has been awarded for demonstrating the practical application of STEAM to students.
- She won the Educator of the Year Award by the Design and Technology Teachers' Association of Australia in 2018.

### Indo-American Krishna Vavilala receives US Presidential Lifetime Award





- Indian-American Krishna Vavilala was honoured with the Presidential Lifetime Achievement (PLA) Award for his contributions to his community and the country.
- He is from Andhra Pradesh & the founder and Chairman of the Foundation for India Studies (FIS).
- The Presidential Lifetime Achievement (PLA) Awards, led by AmeriCorps.

### Indias Greenhouse-in-a-Box startup 'Kheyti' wins 2022 Earthshot Prize

- India's Greenhouse-in-a-box, 'Kheyti' was among the five winners announced by the Prince of Wales, Prince William, in Boston, United States in December 2022.
- The aim of greenhouse-in-a-box is to reduce costs and increase yields which in turn would help protect the livelihoods of these farmers.
- This was the 2nd edition of the Earth shot prize which has also been dubbed as the 'Eco Oscars'.

### Ukrainian President Zelenskiy named Time's 2022 'Person of the Year'

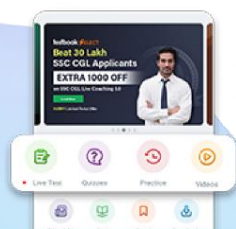
- Time magazine named Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky 2022's "Person of the Year" on 07 Dec 2022.
- He was named for his courage in resisting Russia's devastating invasion.
- On 24 February 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine in a major escalation of the Russo-Ukrainian War, which began in 2014.
- 'Person of the Year' is an annual issue of the United States news magazine 'Time', started in 1927.

### Nandan Nilekani, Katrina Kaif awarded Global Achievers Award 2022

- HBW News announced the winners of the Global Achievers Award 2022 on 6 Dec 2022.
- This award is an initiative to recognize top global leaders and organizations for their outstanding achievements and contributions.
- The Winners list includes Katrina Kaif for achievement in Bollywood, Nandan Nilekani for IT Industry, Selena Gomez for her achievement in singing, etc.

### Canara Bank wins Banker's Bank of the Year Award 2022

- Canara Bank won the 'Banker's Bank of the Year Award 2022' for India segment at the Global Banking Summit held in London in December 2022.
- Bank Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer LV Prabhakar received the award from the organisers.



- The Banker's magazine is a premier global banking and finance resource for more than 180 countries across the world.

### Mohan Mansigani receives honour from Buckingham Palace

- An Indian-origin businessman Mohan Mansigani has received 'Officer of the Most Excellent Order' of the British Empire in recognition of his charitable services to healthcare at an investiture ceremony at Buckingham Palace in London.
- He has played a key leadership role in establishing Casual Dining Group, which operated popular UK restaurant brands such as Café Rouge and Strada.

### Biography of English poet John Donne wins UK non-fiction book prize

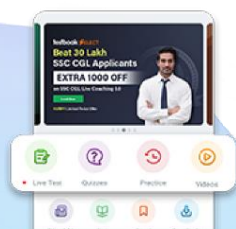
- Famous British writer Katherine Rundell's biography "Super-Infinite: The Transformations of John Donne" was named winner of the Baillie Gifford Prize on 02 Dec 2022.
- The Baillie Gifford Prize recognizes English-language books from any country in current affairs, politics and the arts.
- Year 2021, winner was Patrick Radden Keefe's "Empire of Pain: The Secret History of the Sackler Dynasty."

### Book on Chipko Movement wins Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize

- The Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize 2022 has been awarded to "The Chipko Movement: A People's Movement" on 02 December 2022.
- The book is authored by historian and activist Shekhar Pathak.
- The award is given for non-fiction on contemporary India by writers of any nationality, and carries a cash award of 15 lakhs.
- The Kamaladevi NIF Book Prize was established in 2018.

### Kalinga Institute conferred Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2022

- Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) on 30 November 2022 was conferred the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2022.
- The award was given away by President Draupadi Murmu to the Founder of KIIT and KISS Dr Achyuta Samanta.
- KIIT has produced many elite athletes including Olympians such as Dutee Chand, Olympian CA Bhavani Devi, Olympian Shivpal Singh, Olympian Amit Rohidas.



## Banking Current Affairs | December 2022

## Asian Development Bank provides \$100 million loans to Shriram Finance

- India's largest Non-Banking Finance Company (NBFC) Shriram Finance Ltd secured a \$100 million loan from Asian Development Bank on 30 December 2022.
- The loan amount will be used by Shriram Finance to provide loans to customers to buy new or used BS VI-compliant vehicles and electric vehicles besides providing financial support to women entrepreneurs and under-developed states.

## Worldline ePayments India gets RBI's nod to act as payment aggregator

- Digital payments services platform Worldline ePayments India has received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India to act as a payment aggregator (PA)
- Worldline ePayments India, part of Worldline group, offers solutions for all sorts of payment needs offering in-store, online, and omnichannel payments to its customers.
- Worldline ePayments HQ: Mumbai

## Indian Bank launches 'MSME Prerana' programme in Rajasthan

- Indian Bank has launched its flagship business mentoring program for Micro Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) entrepreneurs – ‘MSME Prerana’ – in the state of Rajasthan.
- “MSME Prerana”, is a first-of-its-kind initiative for the MSME sector in the country by any bank.
- It aims at empowering MSME Entrepreneurs through skill development and capacity-building training in their local languages.

## CIBIL, SIDBI, Online PSB loans launch MSME Rankings for MSME

- Credit information company TransUnion Cibil launched a ranking system for MSME borrowers on 26 December 2022.
- The 'FIT Rank' launched by TransUnion Cibil in association with Online PSB Loans, will rate the over 6 crores MSMEs by drawing inputs from their current accounts.
- It will score between 1-10 to rate a borrower after taking consent to draw the relevant data.

## SBI, ICICI Bank & Axis Bank to launch Rupay based Credit card in 2023

- The State Bank of India (SBI), ICICI Bank and Axis Bank have announced to issue RuPay credit cards on Unified Payment Interface (UPI) by March 2023.
- At present Union Bank of India, Punjab National Bank, Indian Bank and HDFC bank have gone live on the RuPay credit card segment on the UPI platform.

- In June 2022, the Reserve Bank of India allowed linking of credit cards to UPI.

### IFC approves \$400 million to HDFC to support affordable green housing

- World Bank Group member International Financial Corporation (IFC) will provide a \$400 million loan to HDFC for affordable green housing in India.
- HDFC will use around 75% of the loan amount (\$300 million) to provide loans to the affordable green housing sectors in India.
- Green Houses are built with sustainable, environmentally-friendly, energy-efficient, and recyclable resources.

### NSE gets SEBI approval to set up Social Stock Exchange

- The National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) has received in-principle approval from the Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to set up a Social Stock Exchange (SSE).
- An SSE allows the listing of non-profit or non-government organisations on stock exchanges, providing them with an alternative fund-raising structure.
- Countries like the UK, Canada and Brazil have SSEs.

### IDFC First Bank launches zero-free banking on savings accounts

- IDFC FIRST Bank has announced ZERO Fee Banking on savings accounts and waived fees on 25 commonly used banking services.
- Customers maintaining as low as ₹10,000 Average Monthly Balance, as well as the ₹25,000 Average Monthly Balance Requirement (AMB) savings account variant, will be eligible for these benefits.
- IDFC FIRST Bank CEO: V. Vaidyanathan

### HDFC Securities launches investor education platform 'Roots'

- HDFC Securities has launched investor education platform 'Roots' in December 2022.
- It offers multiple forms of valuable information, including articles, podcasts by experts, video tutorials and explainers, and social media feed on the Indian financial markets.
- The portal also includes an UGC section (User Generated Content) where investors and traders can suggest topics they want to learn

### IDFC Mutual Fund renamed to 'Bandhan Mutual Fund'

- The IDFC Mutual Fund (MF) is proposed to be renamed as Bandhan Mutual Fund in December 2022.



- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has granted "no objection" to IDFC Mutual Fund for its proposed change in ownership.
- IDFC Mutual fund has been acquired by a consortium comprising Bandhan Financial Holdings Limited (BFHL), GIC, and ChrysCapital.
- Bandhan Bank CEO: Chandra Shekhar Ghosh

### RBI implements 4 tiered regulatory norms for Urban co-operative banks

- With an aim to strengthen their financial soundness, the RBI on 01 December 2022 announced to adopt four-tiered regulatory framework for Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs) based on size of deposits.
- An expert committee, headed by N S Vishwanathan had recommended a four-tiered regulatory framework based on size of deposits of the banks and their area of operations, among other suggestions.





## Books and Authors Current Affairs | December 2022

### A book titled "Forks in the Road: My Days at RBI and Beyond" released

- C Rangarajan authored a book titled "Forks in the Road: My Days at RBI and Beyond" in December 2022.
- It was published by the Penguin Business (Penguin Group).
- The book is the memoir of Dr C. Rangarajan, an Indian economist, a former Member of Parliament, and the 19th Governor of the RBI.
- It discusses India's transition from its post-independence planning era to the present times.

### A book titled 'The Indian Navy@75 Reminiscing the Voyage' released

- A book titled, 'The Indian Navy@75 Reminiscing the Voyage' authored by Commodore Ranjit B Rai (Retd) and defence journalist Aritra Banerjee released in December 2022.
- It gives the information about the exploits and sacrifices of the British-era Royal Indian Navy (RIN) during World War 2 that were omitted by British historians who could not digest the Royal Indian Navy's mutiny in 1946.

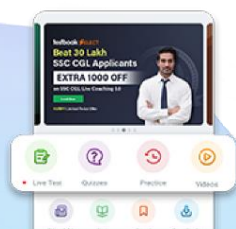
### A book 'Fit At Any Age' launched by Retd. Air Marshal PV Iyer

- Air Marshal PV Iyer (retd.) launched his book 'Fit At Any Age' at India International Centre, New Delhi in December 2022.
- He shared anecdotes from his life to explain how he became motivated to work out daily.
- He also writes about why it's important to work out and why one's journey toward fitness should start early.
- The book is published by Bloomsbury India.

### A book "The Light We Carry: Overcoming In Uncertain Times" by M. Obama

- A book titled "The Light We Carry: Overcoming in Uncertain Times", written by Michelle Obama, has been published by Crown Publishing.
- It inspire readers to examine their own lives, identify their sources of gladness, and connect meaningfully in a turbulent world.
- In the book she shares her habits and practices to overcome her feelings of fear, helplessness and self doubt.

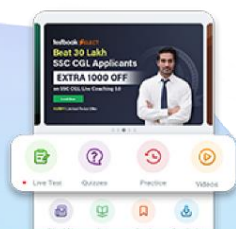
### Author Mansi Gulati releases her Book 'Miracles of Face Yoga'



- Mansi Gulati, the Founder of Manasvani, released her book 'Miracles of Face Yoga', in Dec'22.
- It has also been appreciated by the President of India Droupadi Murmu.
- The book 'Face Yoga' is a comprehensive work on face yoga written in lucid and simple language which can be easily understood by beginners.
- Face yoga utilises a series of facial exercises to tone the muscles on the face.

### A book "Bravehearts of Bharat: Vignettes from Indian History" launched

- A new book, "Bravehearts of Bharat: Vignettes from Indian History" launched in November 2022.
- The book is written by Vikram Sampath and published by Penguin, India.
- It is an anthology of 15 stories of men and women and their indomitable spirit of freedom and courage.
- The book was launched by Rajeev Chandrashekhar, MoS for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.



## Business and Economy Current Affairs | December 2022

### Gross Direct Tax Collections for FY 2022-23 register growth of 25.90%

- The Gross collection of Direct Taxes has registered a growth of 25.90% which stood at Rs 13,63,649 cr in the financial year 2022-23.
- The Gross collection in the corresponding period stood at Rs 10,83,150 cr.
- The Net Direct tax collection for FY 2022-23 stood at 11,35,754 crore rupees, registering a growth of 19.81%.
- For the corresponding period, it was recorded at Rs 9,47,959 cr.

### US Federal Reserve raises key interest rate for the 7th time

- The US Federal Reserve has raised its key interest rate for the seventh time in 2022.
- The central bank boosted its benchmark rate a half-point to a range of 4.25 percent to 4.5 percent, its highest level in 15 years.
- The policymakers forecast that their key short-term rate will reach a range of 5 percent to 5.25 percent by the end of 2023.

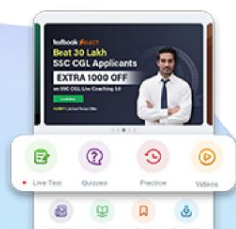
### 48th GST Council meeting held in New Delhi

- The 48th GST Council meeting was held in New Delhi on 17 December 2022.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the meeting.
- Tax rates, rules, and regulations under GST are governed by the Council, which consists of the Finance minister, and her counterparts.
- Monetary threshold will be increased, from the current ₹5 crore to ₹20 crore, for launching legal proceedings against offenders.

### Centre to set borrowing limit for states at 3.5% of GSDP in FY24

- The Centre will set the borrowing limit for states in FY24 at 3.5% of gross state domestic product (GSDP).
- Another 50 bps (basis points) window for states will be given if they carry out reforms in the power sector, taking the total space to 4%.
- For states, the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission had recommended a fiscal deficit limit of 4% for FY22, 3.5% in FY23 and 3% during FY24-26.

### India's First Payment Gateway to support Credit Cards on UPI



- Razorpay becomes India's First Payment Gateway to support Credit Cards on UPI.
- The customers of HDFC Bank, Punjab National Bank, Union Bank and Indian Bank can avail the benefits of this.
- This offering is in line with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) & the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) latest innovation in the digital space.
- Shashank Kumar is the MD & Co-founder, Razorpay.

### New Nifty Bharat Bond Index launched by NSE

- Nifty Bharat Bond Index, April 2033, has been launched within the Nifty Bharat Bond Index series.
- The Bharat Bond Index series follows a target maturity date structure wherein each index in the series measures the performance of a portfolio of 'AAA' rated bonds issued by government owned entities maturing in a specific year.

### ADB approves \$780mn loan to improve connectivity of Chennai Metro

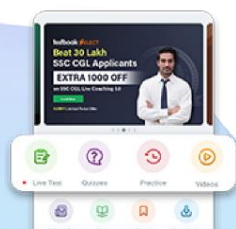
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) on 5 Dec 2022 approved financing of \$780 million to build new lines for Chennai's metro rail and improve the network's connectivity with bus and feeder services.
- The project will construct 10.1 km of an elevated section between Sholinganallur to State Industries Promotion Corporation.
- ADB was founded in 1966.
- Headquarters: Manila (Philippines)

### India's first Surety Bond Insurance product to be launched

- India's first ever Surety Bond insurance product is going to be launched on December 19, 2022.
- This was informed by Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari.
- Surety bonds are different from corporate bonds and financial guarantees.
- Surety bonds refer to the performance or delivery obligation to complete the insured project.

### Reserve Bank of India raises repo rate by 35 basis points

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has hiked the policy repo rate - for a fifth consecutive time - by 35 basis points to 6.25 %.
- The key interest rate has been hiked a total of 190 basis points - by 50 basis points thrice since June, and once by 40 basis points - during an off-cycle meet in May 2022.



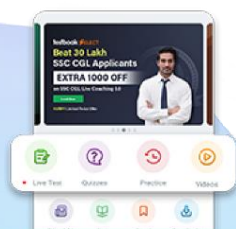
- The FY23 real GDP forecast had been lowered to 6.8%.

### India's coal production increases by 11.66 % to 75.87 mn ton in Nov

- India's total coal production has increased by 11.66 per cent to 75.87 Million Ton (MT) from 67.94 MT during November 2022 as compared to November 2021.
- 24 mines out of the top 37 mines in coal production have produced more than 100 per cent and production of five mines stood between 80 and 100 percent.
- During the period, Coal based power generation has also registered a growth of 16.28%.

### World Bank upgrades India's GDP growth forecast for 2022-23 to 6.9%

- The World Bank has informed that the Indian economy is set to grow at 6.9 per cent in 2022-23, raising its forecast of 6.5 per cent growth made in October 2022.
- It however saw the government meeting the fiscal deficit target of 6.4 per cent of the GDP in 2022-23.
- World Bank expects the inflation at 7.1 per cent in current fiscal year.





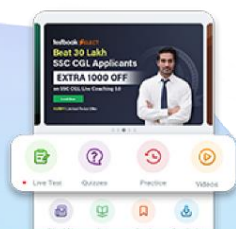
## Committees and Recommendations Current Affairs | December 2022

### CJI formed committee to conduct accessibility audit of SC premises

- Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud has constituted a committee headed by SC judge Justice S Ravindra Bhat to conduct an audit of "physical and functional access" of the Supreme Court premises in December 2022.
- It will prepare a report on the accessibility audit, result of the survey of persons with disability and recommendations/proposals geared towards removing the barriers to access.

### Kirit Parikh panel recommends pricing freedom of Gas from January 2026

- The Kirit Parekh panel set up by the government of India to review the gas pricing formula in India has submitted its report to the Govt of India on 30 November.
- It has recommended to deregulate gas prices in India by Jan 1, 2026.
- In Sept'22, the govt constituted the committee, led by former Planning Commission member Kirit Parikh, to review the gas pricing formula to ensure a fair price.



## Defence Current Affairs | December 2022

### IAF successfully test fires Extended Version of Brahmos-Air Missile

- It was an BrahMos Air launched Missile.
- Missile was tested against a Ship Target from a SU-30MKI aircraft.
- IAF has achieved a significant capability boost to carry out precision strikes from SU-30MKI aircraft against land and sea targets over very long ranges.
- This technology gives the IAF a strategic reach and allows it to dominate future battlefields

### Indian Army to deploy Pralay missiles along China, Pakistan borders

- The Union Defence ministry approved a proposal on 25 December 2022 to buy around 120 'Pralay' ballistic missiles to be deployed along the China, and Pakistan borders.
- The missile will be inducted first into the Indian Air Force and then into the Indian Army.
- It is a surface-to-surface short-range ballistic missile developed by the DRDO for battlefield use.
- It has a range of 150 to 500 km.

### India-Japan to conduct 1st air combat exercise "Veer Guardian" in 2023

- Indian Air Force (IAF) and Japanese Air Self Defence Force (JASDF) are set to hold their maiden bilateral air exercise, "Veer Guardian 23", from January 16 to 26, 2023 at Hyakuri air base and Iruma air base in Japan.
- Japan also participated for the first time in the multilateral exercise MILAN hosted by the Indian Navy in February 2022.
- Chief of Defence Staff (CDS): General Anil Chauhan

### Defence Ministry approves defence acquisition proposals

- The Defence Acquisition Council, DAC has approved Acceptance of Necessity for 24 Capital Acquisition Proposals worth Rs 84,328 cr for the Armed Forces and Indian Coast Guard.
- The decision to this effect was taken in DAC meeting chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on 22 Dec'22.
- It will equip the Indian Army with Futuristic Infantry Combat Vehicles, Light Tanks and Mounted Gun System.

### Indian Navy launches INS Arnala; first ship of ASW SWC Project

- Arnala, the first ship of the ASW SWC Project, being built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers for the Indian Navy was launched on Dec 20, 2022 at Kattupalli, Chennai.
- The ship has been named Arnala to signify the strategic maritime importance accorded to the island of Arnala.
- The contract for building 8 ASW SWC ships was signed between Defence Ministry and GRSE, Kolkata in Apr 2019.

### INSV Tarini to participate in 50th 'Cape Town to Rio Race 2023'

- INSV Tarini will participate in the 50th edition of Cape to Rio Race 2023.
- It will be flagged off from Cape Town on 2nd January, 2023 and will culminate at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- The Cape Town - Rio de Janeiro is one of the most prestigious Trans-Atlantic ocean races.
- INS Tarini is known for circumnavigating the globe with an all-women officer crew titled 'Navika Sagar Parikrama' in 2017.

### Fifth Scorpene submarine 'Vagir' delivered to Indian Navy

- The fifth submarine of the Project – 75, Kalvari Class submarines, Yard 11879 was delivered to the Indian Navy on 20 Dec'22.
- Project – 75 includes indigenous construction of six submarines of Scorpene design.
- These submarines are being constructed at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) Mumbai, under collaboration with M/s Naval Group, France.
- Vagir commenced the sea trials from 1 Feb.

### INS Mormugao, a P15B stealth-guided missile, commissioned into Navy

- Union Defense Minister Rajnath Singh, on 18 Dec 2022, commissioned INS Mormugao, a P15B stealth-guided missile destroyer, into the Indian Navy in Mumbai.
- It is the second warship under the navy's Project-15B under which two more warships will be delivered by 2025.
- The first P-15B warship, Visakhapatnam, was commissioned in Mumbai in November 2021.

### India test fires Agni-V ballistic missile

- India test fired Agni-V, ballistic missile with a range of over 5,000 km, on 15 Dec 2022.
- The test-firing of the missile was done from the Abdul Kalam Island off Odisha coast.
- It is long-range surface-to-surface Nuclear Capable Ballistic missile.



- The missile which uses a three-stage solid fuelled engine, has been developed by the Defence Research and Development organisation (DRDO).

### 16th edition of Indo-Nepal joint training exercise to begin on 16 Dec

- The 16th edition of Indo-Nepal joint training exercise 'Ex- Surya Kiran' will be conducted at Nepal Army Battle School, Saljhandi, Nepal from 16 Dec 2022.
- It aims to enhance interoperability in jungle warfare & counter terrorism operations in mountainous terrain.
- It was first started in 2011.
- The 15th edition of Surya Kiran had taken place on September 20, 2021, in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand.

### Indo-Kazakhstan joint military exercise (Ex- KAZIND) begins on 15 Dec

- The armies of India and Kazakhstan are jointly conducting the training exercise KAZIND at Umroi in Meghalaya.
- The 6th edition of the joint exercise is being carried out from December 15 to 28, 2022.
- Indian Army's soldiers of the 11 Gorkha Rifles are participating in the exercise while the Kazakhstan army is being represented by troops of the Regional Command, South.

### Ex Sanchaar Bodh conducted by Indian Army's Airawat Division

- Indian Army's Airawat Division conducted Ex Sanchaar Bodh in the extensive obstacle-ridden terrain of Punjab in December 2022.
- Tactical communication capabilities were validated in the exercise and the determination to win at any cost in the face of adversity was also confirmed in practice.
- The Indian 1 Armoured Division, under II Corps, is headquartered at Patiala.

### 7th edition of US-India Naval Exercise Sangam held in Goa

- The 7th edition of exercise Sangam, a joint Naval Special Forces exercise between Indian Navy Marcos and US Navy SEARs was held in Goa in Dec 2022.
- Marcos from INS Abhimanyu together aims to exchange ideas and experiences on various aspects of maritime special operations.
- Exercise Sangam was first conducted in 1994 and is an important military and diplomatic initiative between the countries.

### Indian Navy ships participating in IFR-22 at Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

- Indian Navy ships Kochi, Kavaratti and Sumedha arrived in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh to participate in the maiden International Fleet Review (IFR) being conducted by the Bangladesh Navy (BN).
- The ships are taking part in a variety of activities in IFR-22 from 6-9 December 2022.
- All three ships are equipped with a versatile array of weapons and sensors and carry multi-role helicopters.

### New Design of President's Standard and Colour unveiled

- President of India has approved introduction of a new design for the President's Standard and Colour and Indian Navy Crest for the Indian Navy.
- These were unveiled at Visakhapatnam on Navy Day on 4 Dec 2022.
- The erstwhile design of the President's Standard and Colour for the Indian Navy was instituted on 6 Sep 2017.
- The Crest has been amended to replace the foul anchor with a Clear Anchor.

### Indian Naval Ship Shivalik and Kamorta visit Ho Chi Minh city, Vietnam

- Indian Naval Ships, Shivalik and Kamorta have arrived in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam on 2 December 2022.
- The ships would be undertaking numerous professional interactions with the Vietnam People's Navy during the visit.
- The two ships are equipped with a versatile array of weapons and sensors, carry multi-role helicopters and symbolise India's advanced warship building capabilities.

### Army holds 'Sudarshan Prahar' exercise in Rajasthan on 1 December 2022

- Indian Army's Sudarshan Chakra Corps carried out Exercise Sudarshan Prahar in the deserts of Rajasthan on 1 Dec 2022
- The exercise focused on the synergized application of combat power through the integration of force multipliers & practicing new battle techniques in an integrated all-arms environment.
- Chief of Army Staff: General Manoj Pande
- Indian Army Headquarters: New Delhi

### 12th Edition of Exercise Agni Warrior concluded in Maharashtra

- The 12th Edition of Exercise Agni Warrior, a bilateral exercise between Singapore and Indian Army concluded at Field Firing Ranges, Devlali.





- The exercise included participation by both sides in a joint computer war game as part of the joint planning process.
- India was among the first countries to set up diplomatic relations after the independence of Singapore on 24 August 1965.

### Joint HADR Exercise 'Samanvay 2022' concludes in Agra

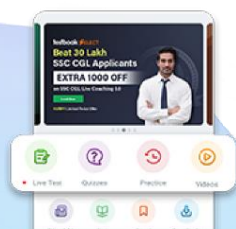
- The Annual Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise 'Samanvay 2022' was conducted at Air Force Station, Agra from 28 Nov 2022 to 30 Nov 2022.
- It is an annual joint multi-agency exercise involving various stakeholders from India and representatives from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh was the chief guest of the ceremony.

### Indian Coast Guard conducts the 24th NOS-DCP and Preparedness meeting

- Indian Coast Guard on 30 November conducted the 24th National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan (NOS-DCP) and Preparedness Meeting in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- During the meeting, national capabilities were reviewed to respond to any oil and chemical spill contingency in Indian waters.
- Currently, India stands sixth in the world as a major chemical importer country.

### ICG Advanced Light Helicopter Mk-III commissioned in Chennai

- Indian Coast Guard Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Mk-III squadron was commissioned by DG VS Pathaniaon on 30 Nov at ICG Air Station, Chennai.
- A total of 16 ALH Mk-III aircraft have been inducted into the Indian Coast Guard in a phased manner and four of these aircraft are positioned in Chennai.
- The ALH Mk-III helicopters, indigenously manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).



## Government Schemes and Policies Current Affairs | December 2022

### Delhi government approved its draft Solar Policy 2022

- The 2022 policy revises the installed capacity proposed by the 2016 policy from 2,000 MW to 6,000 MW by 2025.
- It aims to increase the share of solar energy in Delhi's electricity demand from the current 9 % to 25 % in 3 years – the highest in India.
- It also aims to create a unified single-window state portal to provide information about the benefits of solar PV systems.

### MOHUA launched City Beauty Competition

- It is a new ranking system of cities based on their beautification.
- It has been launched by Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs.
- It aims to encourage & recognize efforts taken by the ULBs to transform cities & wards across India and create beautiful public spaces.
- Cities will be ranked on the 5 broad pillars which are Accessibility, Amenities, Activities, Aesthetics, and Ecology.

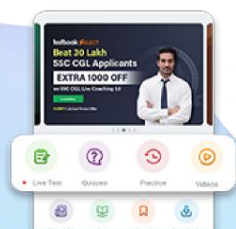
### Ministry of Railways launched Amrit Bharat Station Scheme

- Ministry of Railways has launched the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme.
- The scheme aims to modernize railway stations across India.
- It also aims to create master plans to enhance the facilities including and beyond the Minimum Essential Amenities (MEA).
- Infrastructural development will be ensured for more than 1,000 stations under this scheme.

### Geospatial policy gets Union Cabinet nod

- The Union Cabinet has approved the National Geospatial Policy.
- It seeks to boost entrepreneurship for the socio-economic development of the country.
- The policy also seeks to promote the use of geospatial products and services, generate useful insights from geospatial data and strengthen India's geospatial infrastructure and capabilities.

### PM Kaushal Ko Kaam Karyakram (PMKKK) renamed as PM VIKAS Scheme



- Central government has renamed the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Ko Kaam Karyakram (PMKKK) as Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) Scheme in Dec 2022.
- It converges five erstwhile schemes of the Ministry viz. Seekho aur Kamao, USTTAD, Hamari Dharohar, Nai Roshni and Nai Manzil.
- It is a skill development initiative of the union govt for recognition and standardisation of skills.

### UN recognises Namami Gange as one of the top 10 World Renew Flagships

- The United Nations has recognised the Namami Gange initiative to rejuvenate India's sacred River Ganga as one of the top 10 World Restoration Flagships to revive the natural world.
- NMCG receives award at a function in 15th conference of parties to the convention on biodiversity in Montreal, Canada.
- Namami Gange was selected from over 150 such initiatives from 70 countries across the globe.

### Govt allocates Rs 1037.90 crore to New India Literacy Programme

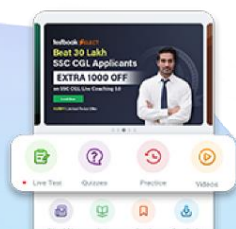
- The Union government has allocated a total financial outlay of Rs 1037.90 crore for the five-year New India Literacy Programme (NILP) on December 12, 2022.
- The government has announced a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
- NILP for implementation during five years from 2022-23 to 2026-27.
- The Central and State shares are in the ratio of 60:40 for all States other than North Eastern Region (NER).

### Government starts Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojna (PMAAGY)

- Under PMAAGY, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs aims to develop 36,428 villages with at least 50% tribal population and 500 Scheduled Tribes into model tribal villages.
- It is a modified version of 'Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme' and will be implemented during 2021-22 to 2025-26.
- The objective is to achieve integrated socio-economic development of selected villages.

### Tamil Nadu CM launched scheme to promote welfare of Sanitation Workers

- CM M K Stalin launched the Sanitation Workers Development Scheme in Madurai.
- He also launched a mobile app "SHWAS" (Sanitation Workers Health Welfare and Safety)
- It aims to protect the welfare of sanitary workers in the state.
- Under the scheme, safety equipment like gloves & boots will be distributed to beneficiaries.
- It will ensure proper education for the children of conservancy workers.



## PM SVANidhi Scheme Extended

- The Government of India has extended the PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme beyond March, 2022.
- 'SVANidhi Se Samridhhi' was launched in January 2021 to map the socio-economic profile of the PM SVANidhi beneficiaries and their families.
- 42 lakh street vendors are to be provided benefits under PM SVANidhi Scheme by December, 2024.

## Union Govt launches national campaign for Digital Life Certification

- Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare launched a nationwide campaign for the promotion of Digital Life Certificate for Central Government pensioners in Dec'22.
- The objective of the campaign is to promote the use of Face Authentication technology and Digital Life Certificates to ensure transparency.
- As of Nov 2022, 2.82 lakh DLCs have been created through Face authentication.



## Days and Events Current Affairs | December 2022

### 30 Dec 2022 marks the 51st death anniversary of Vikram Sarabhai

- Born on August 12, 1919.
- Founded Physical Research Laboratory in Ahmedabad in the year 1947.
- He set up Indian National Committee for Space Research (INCOSPAR) in 1962 and renamed it as Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in 1969.
- He set up India's first rocket launch site in Thumba.
- He was mastermind behind India's first satellite, Aryabhata.
- He was founding member of IIM Ahmedabad.

### INC marks its 138th Foundation Day on December 28, 2022

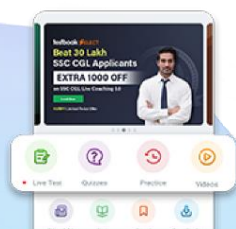
- Every year on December 28, the Indian National Congress (INC) celebrates its foundation day.
- First session of the INC was held on December 28, 1885.
- It was held at Gokuldas Tejpal Sanskrit College, Bombay.
- Womesh Chandra Bonnerjee was the first president of congress.
- It was attended by 72 delegates from across the country.

### PM Modi paid tributes to Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji on "Parkash Purab"

- PM Narendra Modi has paid tributes to Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji on the sacred occasion of Parkash Purab of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji.
- The Parkash Parv marks the birth anniversary of the 10th Sikh guru.
- When his father, Guru Tegh Bahadur, was executed by Aurangzeb, Guru Gobind Singh was formally installed as the leader of the Sikhs at the age of nine, becoming the 10th Sikh Guru.

### International Day of Epidemic Preparedness: 27 December

- International Day of Epidemic Preparedness is observed every year on December 27 to create awareness about the pandemic.
- It aims to facilitate exchange of information, dissemination of scientific knowledge and ensure exchange of best practices at the international level.
- The UN General Assembly on December 7, 2020 declared December 27 as the International Day for Pandemic Preparedness.





## Petroleum Ministry organizes "Dance to Decarbonize" event in New Delhi

- The Petroleum and Natural Gas ministry has organised a one-day event the "Dance to Decarbonize" to produce renewable energy on 23 Dec'22.
- The renewable energy produced by dance will be utilized to charge electric vehicles.
- Through the use of dance and music, the event hopes to increase participation in the sustainability topic.
- India has set a goal of attaining net-zero emissions by 2070.

## PM Modi to participate in first 'Veer Bal Diwas' programme on 26 Dec

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in a program marking the first 'Veer Bal Diwas' at Major Dhyani Chand National Stadium, Delhi on 26th December 2022.
- On the Prakash Purnab, 2022 PM Narendra Modi announced that 26th December will be observed as 'Veer Bal Diwas' to mark the martyrdom of Sri Guru Gobind Singh's sons Sahibzadas Baba Zorawar Singh and Baba Fateh Singh.

## Good Governance Day: 25 December

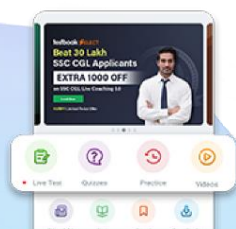
- Every year 25 December is observed as Good Governance Day to mark the birth anniversary of the 10th Prime Minister of India Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- It is observed to increase public access to government programs and services via good governance.
- It was established with the slogan "Good Governance through e-Governance."
- It was started in 2014 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

## National Consumer Rights Day: 24 December

- National Consumer Rights Day is observed on 24 December every year.
- The Consumer Protection Act, of 1986 received the assent of the President on this day.
- The theme for 2022 is "Fair Digital Finance."
- It also provides awareness about consumer rights and responsibilities.
- While World Consumer Day is celebrated on 15th March every year.

## National Farmer's Day: 23 December

- Kisan Divas or Farmer's Day in India or National Farmer's Day is celebrated on 23 December every year.



- The day is celebrated to mark the anniversary of our India's fifth Prime Minister Choudhry Charan Singh.
- He played an important part in the enactment and drafting of numerous agricultural reform bills.
- The theme for 2022 is: "Igniting Young Minds By Innovative Farmers"

### National Mathematics Day: 22 December

- National Mathematics Day is celebrated on 22 Dec every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of the famous mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan.
- He was born in 1887 in Erode, Tamil Nadu.
- In 1911 Ramanujan published the 1st of his papers in the Journal of the Indian Mathematical Society.
- 1729 is known as the Ramanujan Number.
- He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of London in 1918

### Sashastra Seema Bal commemorates '59th Raising Day'

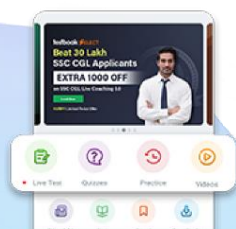
- Sashastra Seema Bal commemorated its '59th Raising Day' on 20 December 2022.
- Sashastra Seema Bal, SSB is a border guarding force of India, which guards the nation's border with Nepal and Bhutan.
- It is one of the five Central Armed Police Forces and it works under the administration of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

### International Human Solidarity Day: 20 December

- International Human Solidarity Day is observed on 20 December every year to highlight the importance of unity in diversity.
- It was introduced by the UN General Assembly during the 2005 World Summit and was formally established on 22 December 2005.
- The theme for the year 2022 is "promote solidarity among all and encourage people to work together towards eliminating hunger on a global scale."

### Union Minister Jitendra Singh inaugurates Good Governance Week 2022

- Union Minister for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated Good Governance Week 2022 in New Delhi on 19 December 2022.



- The Minister also launched a five day "Prashasan Gaon Ki Ore" a nationwide Campaign, to commemorate the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

### International Migrants Day: 18 December

- International Migrants Day is celebrated on 18 December every year to raise awareness about the protection of migrants and refugees.
- On 18 December 1990, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution on the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.
- Theme for 2022: Integrating migrants into primary health care.

### Minority Rights Day: 18 December

- Every year on 18 December, Minority Rights Day is observed to promote the rights of Minority communities in India.
- The United Nations on December 18, 1992 adopted and broadcast the Statement on the individual's Rights belonging to Religious or Linguistic National or Ethnic Minorities.
- The theme of Minority Rights Day 2022 is "All in 4 Minority Rights"

### Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's 72nd death anniversary: 15 December 2022

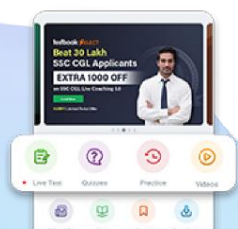
- Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's 72nd death anniversary was observed on 15 Dec'22.
- He served as the first Deputy PM and Home Minister of India from 1947-50.
- He was appointed as the 49th President of the Indian National Congress.
- He is also known as the 'Iron Man of India' and is often called the "patron saint of India's civil servants" for having established the modern All India Services system.

### Vijay Diwas: 16 December

- Vijay Diwas is celebrated on December 16 every year to honor the victory of Indian armed forces over Pakistan in the 1971 war.
- On December 16, 1971, India won the war against Pakistan after fighting for 13 days.
- The chief of the Pakistani forces, General A. K. Niazi surrendered to the joint forces of the Indian Army and Bangladesh's Mukti Bahini, along with 93,000 Pakistani troops.

### PM Modi attends Sri Aurobindo's 150th birth anniversary programme

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in a program commemorating Sri Aurobindo's 150th birth anniversary, on 13th Dec'22.



- Aurobindo Ghose was born in Calcutta on 15th August 1872.
- He was a nationalist, poet, educationist, and philosopher.
- From 1902 to 1910, he participated in India's freedom movement.
- PM Modi released a commemorative coin and postage stamp in honor of Sri Aurobindo.

### National Energy Conservation Day: 14 December

- Since 1991, it is celebrated every year on 14 December by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency, under the Ministry of Power.
- It aims to raise awareness about the need for energy and its conservation in daily life.
- President will felicitate the winners of the National Energy Conservation Awards, and National Energy Efficiency Innovation Awards and also launch the EV Yatra Portal on the occasion.

### UNICEF Day: 11 December

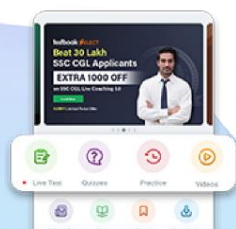
- The UNICEF Day is observed on December 11 every year .
- The UN General Assembly created UNICEF on December 11, 1946, as the UN International Children's Emergency Fund to improve the health, nutrition, education, and general welfare of children devastated due to World War II.
- The theme for 2022 is: "All girls deserve better—the world deserves better."
- UNICEF Headquarters: New York

### SAARC Charter Day 2022

- The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Charter Day is observed every year on 8th December.
- On this day in 1985, SAARC Charter was adopted in Dhaka during the first summit of the group.
- 2022 marks the 38th anniversary of the regional group.
- The charter was signed by leaders of SAARC countries i.e Government of Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

### 10 December: Human Rights Day

- Human Rights Day is celebrated annually around the world on 10 December every year.
- The date was chosen to honor the United Nations General Assembly's adoption and proclamation, on 10 December 1948 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR).
- The 2022 Theme of Human Rights Day is 'Dignity, Freedom, and Justice for All.'



## 51st anniversary of Longewala battle celebrated as Parakram Diwas

- On the 51st anniversary of India's victory in the Longewala battle during the 1971 war, India celebrated Parakram Diwas on 5 December 2022.
- The event was held at Jaisalmer Military Station and Longewala War Memorial in Rajasthan.
- The Longewala battle between India and Pakistan in 1971 was one of the biggest and most decisive battles, which is registered in the Golden words in History.

## International Anti-Corruption Day: 9 December

- International Anti-Corruption Day is observed on 9 December every year to highlight how corruption affects health, education, justice, democracy, prosperity, and development.
- International Anti Corruption Day 2022 Theme is "UNCAC at 20: Uniting the World Against Corruption".
- The UNGA designated 9 December as International Anti-Corruption Day in 2005.

## India to host 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Diwas in Indore in January 2023

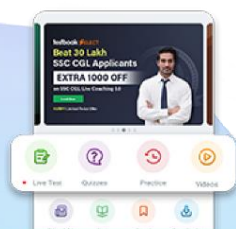
- India will be hosting the 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Diwas in Indore from 8-10 January 2023.
- Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, will be the Chief Guest at the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD).
- Australian Member of Parliament (MP) Zaneta Mascarenhas will be the guest of honour at the Youth Pravasi Bharatiya Divas which will be held on 8 January, 2023.

## 'Maitri Diwas' celebrated on 6 December 2022

- The 51st anniversary of 'Maitri Diwas' marking the recognition granted to Bangladesh by India in 1971 was celebrated in Dhaka on 6 Dec'22.
- The event was organized by the Embassy of India in Dhaka.
- Minister for Liberation of Bangladesh A.K.M Haque was the Chief Guest on the occasion.
- The decision to observe Dec 6 as 'Maitri Diwas' was taken by the PMs of respective countries in Mar'21.

## Armed Forces Flag Day: 7 December

- Every year on December 7, India commemorates Armed Forces Flag Day to raise donations for the welfare of the Armed Forces Staff.
- On 28th August 1949, the Ministry of Defence decided to celebrate this day, to honor the soldiers, sailors, and airmen.





- The welfare schemes are funded by the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund (AFFDF) which was instituted Govt of India.

### International Civil Aviation Day: 7 December

- International Civil Aviation day is celebrated on 7 Dec every year to raise awareness about the role that international civil aviation plays and its importance.
- The International Civil Aviation Organisation is a UN body that takes care of international standards for aviation safety.
- In 1996, the UN's General Assembly declared this day to be observed as International Civil Aviation Day.

### Opening Ceremony of Intl Year of Millets 2023 held in Rome, Italy

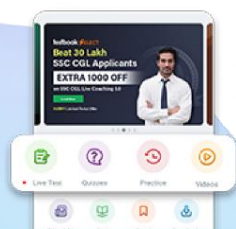
- The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, organized an opening ceremony for the International Year of Millets 2023 in Rome, Italy on 6 Dec 2022.
- India sponsored the proposal for the International Year of Millets 2023 which was accepted by the UN's General Assembly.
- In India, millets are primarily a Kharif crop, requiring less water and agricultural inputs.

### Dr. BR Ambedkar's 66th death anniversary: 6 December

- India observes 6 Dec as Mahaparinirvan Divas to mark the death anniversary of Dr. BR Ambedkar.
- On 6 Dec 1956, he passed away.
- The day is observed to commemorate his contribution to society.
- BR Ambedkar, the father of the Indian Constitution, was born on April 14, 1891.
- He was also among the 7 members of the drafting committee who prepared a draft of the Constitution of independent India.

### Parakram Diwas celebrated in Rajasthan on 5 December

- To mark the 51st anniversary of India's victory in the Longewala battle during the 1971 war, Parakram Diwas was celebrated at Longewala War Memorial in Rajasthan on December 5, 2022.
- Several programs will be organized on this occasion at the Sagat Singh Stadium.
- The Longewala battle between India and Pakistan in 1971 was one of the biggest and most decisive battles.



## World Soil Day: 5 December

- World Soil Day (WSD) is held every year on 5 December as a means to focus attention on the importance of healthy soil and to advocate for the sustainable management of soil resources.
- In December 2013 the UN General Assembly designated 5 December 2014 as the first official World Soil Day.
- World Soil Day 2022 Theme: "Soils: where food begins"

## International Volunteer Day: 5 December

- International Volunteer Day (IVD) is celebrated on 5 December every year to promote volunteerism at local, national, and international levels.
- The United Nations General Assembly notified in its resolution of 20 November 1997 that 2001 will be observed as the International Year of Volunteers (IYV).
- The theme of the International Volunteer Day (IVD) 2022 is "solidarity through volunteering"

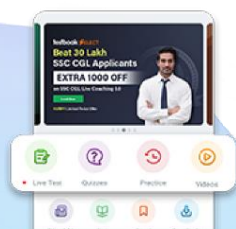
## Indian Navy Day : 4 December

- Indian Navy Day is celebrated on 4 December every year to recognize the achievements and role of the Indian Navy in the country.
- December 4 was chosen as that day in 1971 during Operation Trident.
- The Indian Navy sank 4 Pakistani vessels including PNS Khaibar, killing hundreds of Pakistani Navy personnel.
- Chhatrapati Shivaji is called the father of the Indian Navy.
- Headquarters: New Delhi

## Union Minister of Labour chaired the 189th meeting of ESIC

- The 189th Meeting of Employees' State Insurance Corporation was held on 4 Dec'22 in New Delhi.
- It was held under the Chairmanship of Bhupender Yadav, Union Minister for Labour and Employment.
- The 'Nirman Se Shakti' initiative has been started to strengthen and modernize the infrastructure of ESIS hospitals and dispensaries in a phased manner
- ESIC Founded:1952

## DRI celebrates its 65th Founding Day on 5 December 2022



- The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) is celebrating its 65th Founding Day on 5th-6th Dec 2022.
- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will inaugurate the 2-day event along with the Union MoS for Finance Shri Pankaj Chaudhary.
- DRI is the premier intelligence and enforcement agency on anti-smuggling matters.
- It came into existence on 4th December 1957.
- DRI Headquarters: New Delhi

### R. Venkataraman's 109th Birth Anniversary: 4 December 2022

- R. Venkataraman's 109th Birth Anniversary is celebrated on 4 December every year.
- R. Venkataraman was born in Rajamadam village near Tanjore district in Tamil Nadu on December 4, 1910.
- He served as Union Minister and as the eighth president of India.
- He participated in the Quit India Movement in 1942.
- He was appointed as a member of the Constituent Assembly.

### Gita Mahotsav: 3 December

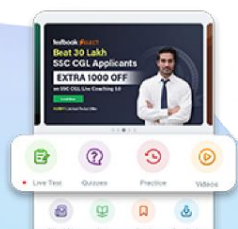
- Gita Jayanti is the day when Lord Shri Krishna explained the Gita Gyan to Arjuna. It is observed on Ekadashi tithi (11th day) of Shukla Paksha in the month of Margashirsha.
- In 2022, Gita Jayanti is celebrated on 03 December 2022.
- It is believed the Bhagavad Gita was revealed to Arjuna by Krishna on the battlefield of Kurukshetra.
- It is the 5159th Anniversary of the sacred book Gita.

### International Day of Persons with Disabilities: 3 December

- The International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) is observed on December 3 every year to spread awareness about the rights and well-being of people with disabilities.
- International Day of Persons with Disabilities began in 1992 by United Nations.
- Theme: "Transformative solutions for inclusive development: the role of innovation in fueling an accessible and equitable world."

### World Computer Literacy Day: 2 December

- World Computer Literacy Day is celebrated on December 2 every year.



- It is celebrated to address the digital divide that affects millions across the world and make computers more accessible to everyone.
- World Computer Literacy Day was first marked in 2001 by an Indian company, the National Institute of Information Technology (NIIT) to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the institute.

### National Pollution Control Day 2022 observed on December 2

- National Pollution Control Day is observed every year on 2 December in India.
- The day is recognized to commemorate the precious lives that were lost in the Bhopal Gas Tragedy.
- The main aim and objectives of celebrating the National Pollution Prevention Day 2022 in India is to create awareness among people about the judicious use of industries to prevent uncalled-for industrial disasters.

### International Day for the Abolition of Slavery: 2 December

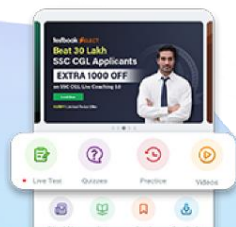
- The International Day for the Abolition of Slavery is celebrated on December 2 every year.
- The day is observed to remind us of the evils of enslavement, forced labor and sexual exploitation, and trafficking and to eliminate slavery practiced in our time.
- The theme of International Day for the Abolition of Slavery is 'Stories of Courage: Resistance to Slavery and Unity against Racism.'

### Nagaland celebrates 60th statehood day on 01 December 2022

- Nagaland on 01 December 2022, celebrated its 60th statehood day.
- It became the 16th State of the Union of India on 1st December 1963.
- On the occasion, the Chief Minister launched the SAHYOG project of Nagaland Police and also flagged off Nagaland Police Special Operation Group Vehicles.
- Capital: Kohima
- Chief minister: Neiphiu Rio
- Governor: Jagdish Mukhi

### 58th Raising Day of BSF celebrated on 01 December

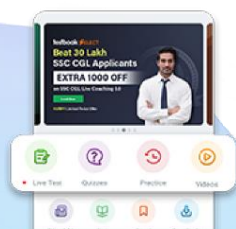
- The 58th Raising Day of the Border Security Forces (BSF) was celebrated on 01 December 2022.
- BSF was established on 1 December 1965 for ensuring security on the borders of India.
- Currently, BSF comprises 2.65 lakh personnel, deployed across the international border in 193 battalions.



- BSF Director General: Pankaj Kumar Singh
- BSF Headquarters: New Delhi

### World AIDS Day: 1 December

- World AIDS Day is observed on 1 December every year to raise awareness and knowledge about HIV and a call to move toward ending the HIV epidemic.
- It was first celebrated in 1988.
- United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS, abbreviated to UNAIDS came into existence in 1996.
- The theme for World AIDS Day 2022 is "Rock the Ribbon."





## International Current Affairs | December 2022

### Benjamin Netanyahu takes oath as Israel's new Prime Minister

- Netanyahu took oath as Israel's prime minister for the 6th time in December 2022.
- Netanyahu, who is already Israel's longest-serving Prime Minister, has the support of 63 lawmakers in the 120-member Knesset (Israeli parliament).
- He previously held office from 1996 to 1999 and again from 2009 to 2021.
- Israel Capital: Jerusalem

### Zelenskyy's 10-Point Peace Plan

- Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has outlined a 10-point peace plan to end the war with Russia.
- Russian President Putin expressing his willingness to come to the negotiating table is reason behind this plan.
- plan focuses on various key areas, including nuclear & energy security, the release of POWs, the implementation of the UN Charter & the restoration of territorial integrity,

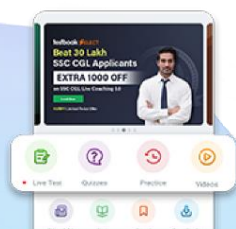
### Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Power Project handed over to DGPC

- The 720 MW project is a joint project between India & Bhutan.
- Indian Govt. provided the financial and technical assistance for the construction of this project.
- The commissioning of this hydroelectric power project has increased the electrical power generation capacity of Bhutan by 44 per cent.
- The Project was handed over to the Druk Green Power Corporation (DGPC) in Bhutan.

### Russia bans oil supplies to countries that introduced price caps

- Russia has announced to ban oil supplies to countries that have introduced price caps on Russian oil and petroleum products in response to Moscow's operation in Ukraine.
- President Vladimir Putin has signed a decree in this regard.
- The decree will be in effect for five months from 1st February until 1st July 2023.
- Russia is the world's second-largest oil exporter after Saudi Arabia.

### Spain Passes New Transgender Law



- The lower house of the Spain approved a measure allowing individuals over the age of 16 to change their legally recorded gender without the need for medical supervision.
- It also abolishes a restriction on banned lesbian couples from registering their children under both parents' names and forbids the use of so-called conversion therapies to repress sexual orientation or gender identity.

### Sitiveni Rabuka Becomes Fiji's New Prime Minister

- Sitiveni Rabuka has been appointed as the Fiji's new prime minister on 24 December 2022.
- In the 55 member Parliament of Fiji, Sitiveni Rabuka secured 28 votes against Bainimarama's 27 votes.
- Fiji will have three deputy prime ministers in Biman Prasad (finance), Viliame Gavoka (tourism), and Manoa Kamikamica (external trade) under the coalition arrangement.
- Fiji Capital: Suva

### Nepal elected member of UN's Peacebuilding Commission

- Nepal has been elected a member of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) at the 56th plenary meeting of the United Nations General Assembly for a tenure of two years.
- The membership will be effective from 1st January 2023.
- Alongside Nepal, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, India, and Rwanda were also elected from the category of Troop and Police Contributors to UN Missions.

### UAE to host the 13th World Trade Organisation Ministerial Meet in 2024

- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) will host the 13th World Trade Organisation (WTO) Ministerial meeting in February 2024.
- The WTO's 12th Ministerial Conference was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from June 12 to June 17, 2022.
- The Ministerial Conference is the topmost decision-making body of the WTO and usually meets every two years.
- Director General of WTO : Dr Ngozi -Okonjo-Iweala

### Nations adopt Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

- The UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) adopted the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) on Dec 19, 2022.
- The framework has 23 targets that the world needs to achieve by 2030.



- The countries will monitor and report every five years or less on a large set of indicators related to progress.
- Signatories aim to ensure \$200 billion per year for conservation initiatives.

### NASA launches international mission 'SWOT' to survey Earth's water

- The US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the French space agency Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales (CNES) jointly launched the Surface Water and Ocean Topography (SWOT) mission to track nearly all the water on Earth's surface on 16 December 2022.
- The SWOT mission was launched through a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California, USA.

### Indian-origin Leo Varadkar elected as Ireland's new Prime Minister

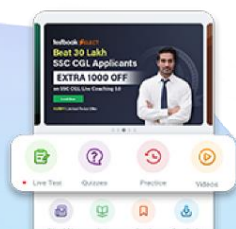
- Indian origin Leo Varadkar was elected as the Prime Minister of the Republic of Ireland for the second time on 17 December 2022.
- Michael Martin has become the Deputy PM and Foreign Minister.
- In a special session in the lower house of the Irish parliament, Dail voted to approve Leo Varadkar's nomination as the Prime Minister.
- The lower house of the parliament is called Dail.

### US President Joe Biden signs gay marriage legislation

- US President Joe Biden signed gay marriage law in Dec 2022.
- This law establishes statutory authority for same-sex and interracial marriages.
- This law officially repeals the Marriage Act of 1996, which defined marriage as between a man and a woman.
- As of 2022, marriage between same-sex couples is legally recognized in 33 countries including Argentina, Australia, etc.

### G-7 agrees \$15.5B energy deal with Vietnam to cut emissions

- The Group of Seven (G-7) rich industrialised nations has approved an agreement to provide \$15.5 billion to Vietnam.
- The aim is to help Vietnam reduce its emissions to "net zero" by 2050, a goal which experts say needs to be met globally to cap global warming at 1.5 degrees Celsius.
- The \$15.5 billion of funding will come from public and private sources in 3-5 years.



## Kosovo formally applies to join EU

- Kosovo's Prime Minister Albin Kurti submitted a bid for Kosovo to join the European Union.
- PM Kurti presented the application in Prague to the Czech Republic, holders of the EU's rotating presidency.
- Kosovo is the only country in its region which has not still applied to join the EU.
- Kosovo is not a member of the United Nations, and five EU state have refused to recognise its statehood.

## Peru declares 30-day state of emergency

- Peru's new government led by president Dina Boluarte has declared a 30-day national state of emergency to quell violent demonstrations.
- There was violent protest following the ousting and arrest of former President Pedro Castillo a week ago.
- Protesters were calling for reinstatement of Castillo.
- The emergency provision suspends the right to gather and move freely across the entire country.

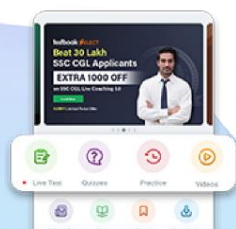
## Iran removed from UN Commission on the Status of Women

- United Nations member states have removed Iran from UN women's rights group on 15 Dec 2022.
- The resolution was proposed by the US to "remove with immediate effect the Islamic Republic of Iran from the Commission on the Status of Women for the remainder of its 2022-2026 term.
- A UN report released in March 2021 described Iranian women and girls as treated like "second class citizens."

## New Zealand passes tobacco law to ban smoking for next generation

- In a remarkable step, New Zealand has adopted a measure that will prohibit the sale of cigarettes to anybody born on or after January 1, 2009.
- New Zealand is believed to be the first country in the world to implement the annually rising smoking age.
- The restrictions will take effect in 2023, with New Zealand aiming to be "smoke-free" by 2025.

## World Bank launches its flagship Gender Toolkit



- World Bank launched a Gender Toolkit based on "Enabling gender-responsive urban mobility and public spaces" in December 2022.
- It aims at bringing under spotlight the gender issues surrounding mobility and city design.
- It offers resources to help and address gender-disaggregated mobility patterns, reinforce policies, and create an infrastructure that will suit their requirements.

### US prints its first-ever currency with two women's signatures

- The Treasury (United States of America's Finance Ministry) printed the first US banknotes (currency notes) with two women's signatures in December 2022.
- The new currency notes of \$1 and \$5 value carry the signature of the Secretary of Treasury (American Finance Minister) Janet Yellen and Lynn Malerba.
- The United States currency notes are popularly called Greenback.

### UAE successfully launches first ever Arab-Built lunar spacecraft

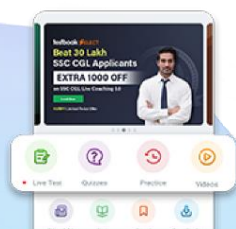
- A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket carried into space the first ever Arab-built lunar spacecraft, on 12 Dec 2022.
- It was launched from the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida.
- The Rashid Rover was built by Dubai's Mohammed bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC), in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and is being delivered by the HAKUTO-R lander, engineered by Japanese lunar exploration company ispace.

### Indian-origin Veena Nair awarded Prime Minister's prize in Australia

- Indian-origin teacher in Australia received PM's Prize for Excellence in Science Teaching in secondary schools in Dec 2022.
- She is ViewBank College's Head of Technology and STEAM project leader and has been awarded for demonstrating the practical application of STEAM to students.
- She won the Educator of the Year Award by the Design and Technology Teachers' Association of Australia in 2018.

### Google launches anti-misinformation campaign in India

- Google's Jigsaw subsidiary launched a new anti-misinformation project in India in Dec'22.
- It is aimed at preventing misleading information that has been blamed for inciting violence.
- In 2022, Google conducted an experiment in Europe where it sought to counter anti-refugee narratives online in the wake of the Russian invasion of Ukraine.





- Google HQ: California
- Google CEO: Sundar Pichai

### 'Goblin mode' chosen as Oxford word of the year for 2022

- The oxford University Press has chosen 'Goblin Mode' as word of the year for 2022.
- It was chosen by the general public for the first time.
- The word 'Goblin Mode' is a "slang term" which means 'a type of behaviour which is unapologetically self-indulgent, or greedy, typically in a way that rejects social norms.'
- The word "Goblin mode" came first followed by "Metaverse" and "#IStandWith"

### US Air Force unveils new B-21 Raider nuclear stealth bomber

- The United States unveiled its latest high-tech strategic bomber the B-21 Raider, in December 2022, which is capable of carrying a nuclear payload and can be flown without a crew on board.
- The next-generation stealth bomber was rolled out at arm's manufacturer Northrop Grumman's facility in California.
- The US Air Force plans to buy at least 100 of the B-21 aircraft from the manufacturer.

### Iran to disband morality police

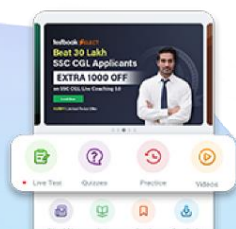
- Iran's morality police, which is tasked with enforcing the country's Islamic dress code, is being disbanded.
- Iran has had various forms of "morality police" since the 1979 Islamic Revolution, but the latest version - known formally as the Gasht-e Ershad - is currently the main agency tasked enforcing Iran's Islamic code of conduct.
- They began their patrols in 2006.

### Indonesia's Mount Semeru volcano erupts

- Indonesia's Mount Semeru volcano erupted in December 2022.
- Indonesia sits on the Pacific "Ring of Fire" where tectonic plates collide, causing frequent volcanic activity as well as earthquakes.
- Semeru - also known as "The Great Mountain" - is the highest volcano in Java at 3,676 meter (12,060ft) and one of the most active.

### NASA's Artemis 1 Orion capsule sets new flight record

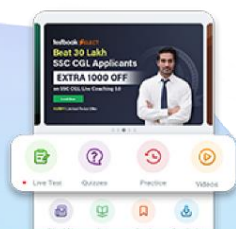
- NASA's Artemis 1 Orion Capsule has set a new space flight record for spacecraft designed to carry humans by traveling 4,01,798 kilometers from Earth.



- The record was previously held by Apollo 13 which logged the record on 14th April 1970 by traveling 400,171 kilometers.
- The Orion is carrying a manikin named "Commander Moonikin Campos", after the late Arturo Campos.

### UNESCO recommends Great Barrier Reef to be put 'in danger' list site

- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) released a report in Nov'22, recommending Australia's Great Barrier Reef (GBR) on a list of world heritage sites in danger.
- It is the world's biggest coral reef ecosystem.
- The acidity of its water has increased by 26%.
- UNESCO classifies 52 such sites as in danger in order to encourage action to protect them.



## MoU and Agreements Current Affairs | December 2022

### India, Cyprus sign agreement on defence and military cooperation

- External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar signed a defense agreement with the Cyprus government in the capital Nicosia on 29 December 2022.
- It was signed to increase defense and military cooperation between the two countries.
- A Letter of Intent was also signed on immigration and mobility to check illegal migrations.

### Tata Steel & TuTr Hyperloop sign MoA to develop Hyperloop technology

- Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) was signed at IIT Madras on December 23, 2022
- Focus is to jointly work on the development and deployment of Hyperloop technology at scale.
- The main research areas will focus on design and materials selection challenges.
- TuTr is a deep tech startup incubated out of IIT Madras, India.

### IOCL embarks on intensified TB elimination project in UP, Chhattisgarh

- Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) on 28 December 2022 announced that it has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to collaborate with state authorities in fighting the menace of Tuberculosis in Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.
- The agreement is part of the government's vision to end Tuberculosis in India by 2025.
- It aims to offer free TB treatment to the people of UP and Chhattisgarh.

### Tribal Ministry partners with Amazon for future engineer programme

- National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) partnered with Amazon to organize a two-day capacity-building program for EMRS teachers to implement the Amazon Future Engineer Program.
- The collaboration between NESTS and Amazon will empower teachers and students in digital education.
- It will serve as a stepping stone in creating Computer awareness for the tribal students of EMRSs.

### Project management consultancy contract signed b/w India, Bangladesh

- The Project Management Consultancy (PMC) services contract for the upgradation of the Mongla port was signed in Dhaka in December 2022.



- The project is being financed under India's concessional Line of Credit (LOC) of USD 4.5 billion extended to Bangladesh.
- The contract was signed between Mongla Port Authority (MPA) and EGIS India Consulting Engineers Pvt. Ltd.

### India, ADB sign MoU to improve Urban Services in Tamil Nadu

- The Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) on 27 December 2022 signed a \$125 million loan to improve urban services in the state of Tamil Nadu.
- It is signed to develop climate-resilient sewage collection and treatment, and drainage and water supply systems in three cities.
- ADB President: Masatsugu Asakawa
- ADB Headquarters: Manila, Philippines

### NTPC inks pact with Italy-based firm for Green Methanol Production

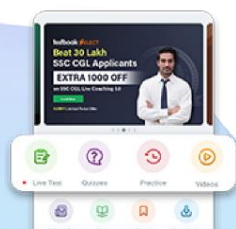
- India's largest power generation company 'National Thermal Power Corporation Limited' (NTPC) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Technimont Pvt Ltd, the Indian subsidiary of Italy-based Maire Tecnimont Group, on 26 December 2022.
- This green methanol project involves capturing carbon from NTPC's power plants and converting it into green fuel.

### Union Govt signs peace agreement with insurgent group of Manipur

- The government of India and the Manipur government have signed a Cessation of Operation Agreement with an insurgent group of Manipur, Zeliangrong United Front (ZUF) on 27 Dec 2022.
- Under the agreement the ZUF has agreed to abjure violence and join the peaceful democratic process.
- The Zeliangrong United Front (ZUF) was established in 2011.
- It is a Naga group which is active in Manipur.

### IREDA signs loan agreement with KFW

- Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA) has signed a loan agreement with KFW namely, KFW VI line of credit for financing 'Access to Clean Energy Projects' meant for decentralized solar applications.
- The total sanctioned amount of the agreement is EUR 20 million.
- The entire amount has been utilized as of 30th March, 2022.



### iDEX-DIO signs 150th contract for defence innovation

- Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX), initiative of Department of Defence Production, has reached a milestone with the signing of its 150th contract.
- The contract relates to an Indian Navy project of the Defence India Start-up Challenge (DISC 7) SPRINT edition.
- The challenge was won by Altair Infrasec Pvt Ltd, Pune.

### NTPC Limited and GE Power India Limited sign MoU

- NTPC Ltd., the country's largest power generating utility, and GE Power India Limited, have signed an MoU.
- It has been signed for feasibility to demonstrate technologies to reduce the carbon footprint of NTPC's existing coal fired power plants.
- This first of a kind MoU aims at partnering on research, development and engineering of technologies.

### Gail inks pact with Japan's Mitsui OSK for LNG carrier

- Gail India and Japanese transport firm Mitsui OSK Lines, through its wholly owned subsidiary, has signed a time charter contract for a new-build liquefied natural gas (LNG) carrier.
- It has also been signed for joint ownership of an existing LNG carrier.
- The vessel will be built by South Korean shipbuilder Daewoo Shipbuilding & Marine Engineering with a charter period from 2023.

### Bandhan Bank signs MoU with Defence Ministry to set up Sparsh centres

- Defence minister signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bandhan Bank to onboard them as Service Centers under the System for Pension Administration Raksha (SPARSH) initiative.
- It will provide services to the defence pensioners through its 557 branches.
- SPARSH is a web-based system for processing the pension claims of defence pensioners without any external intermediary.

### Over 190 nations adopt landmark biodiversity pact

- Over 190 countries have adopted a landmark biodiversity pact to restore natural ecosystems.
- At the UN Biodiversity Conference, COP15 in Montreal, these countries agreed to protect 30 percent of the planet by 2030.





- Under the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), countries also agreed to reduce harmful government subsidies worth 500 billion dollars annually.

### NHIDCL signs MoU with NIT Manipur to develop innovative technologies

- National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd (NHIDCL) has signed MoU with NIT Manipur on 14th December 2022.
- It is looking for innovative technologies to find practical solutions to the challenges faced in the construction of highways that withstand extreme climatic conditions.
- NHIDCL has previously signed MoUs with IIT Bombay & IIT Guwahati.
- NHIDCL MD: Chanchal Kumar

### Airtel partners with TechM for private network at M&M's Chakan plant

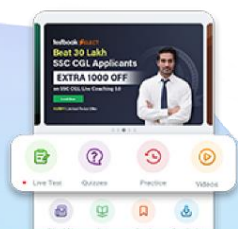
- Bharti Airtel entered into agreement with Tech Mahindra in the private 5G network space.
- The two would deploy the new technology solution at Mahindra and Mahindra's auto plant at Chakan in Maharashtra.
- This will make the Chakan plant the country's first 5G-enabled auto manufacturing unit.
- The partnership will unlock opportunities across industries, improve productivity, and spur innovation.

### CCI Limited signed an MoU with TEXPROCIL for "Kasturi Cotton India"

- The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) Limited and TEXPROCIL have signed an MoU on branding, traceability and certification of "Kasturi Cotton India."
- It will provide complete traceability of Cotton from the origin farm level, QR Code based Certification technology at each stage.
- Ministry of Textiles had announced the "Kasturi Cotton India" Brand of cotton on World Cotton Day on 7 Oct 2020.

### IREDA inks pact with SJVN Green Energy Ltd. for 1000 MW Solar project

- Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA) signed a loan agreement for Rs. 4,444.71 crore with SJVN Green Energy Ltd. for a 1,000 MW Solar power project in December 2022.
- SJVN Green Energy Ltd. will develop the project at Bikaner, Rajasthan.
- The project will support Govt. of India to achieve its targets of 50 percent share of energy from non-fossil fuels by 2030.



## Finland, India sign joint declaration on migration and mobility

- Finland and India on 13 Dec 2022, signed a Joint Declaration of Intent to facilitate greater mobility and to combat irregular migration.
- Both countries agreed to work jointly towards developing a common framework of arrangement to facilitate the mobility of students, academics, and professionals.
- On May 4, PM Modi met Finland PM Sanna Marin during the 2nd India-Nordic Summit in Copenhagen.

## ISRO & Social Alpha Sign MoU to set up SpaceTech Innovation Platform

- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Social Alpha on 7 Dec'22 signed an MoU to launch SpaceTech Innovation Network (SpIN).
- It will be India's first dedicated platform for innovation of space entrepreneurial ecosystem.
- SpIN has launched its first innovation challenge for developing solutions in areas of maritime and land transportation, urbanisation, mapping, and surveying.

## RBI signs Currency Swap Agreement with Maldives Monetary Authority

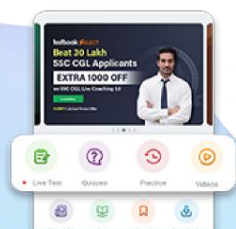
- RBI has signed a Currency Swap Agreement with the Maldives Monetary Authority under the SAARC Currency Swap Framework.
- This agreement will enable the Maldives authority to make drawals in multiple tranches up to a maximum of 200 million dollars from the RBI.
- Agreement will provide swap support as a backstop line of funding for short-term foreign exchange liquidity requirements.

## PFC signs MoU with Ministry of Power for FY 2022-23

- Power Finance Corporation Limited signed an MoU for FY 2022-23 with Ministry of Power on 6th December 2022.
- PFC is a key partner to Government of India for implementation of several schemes such as Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), Liquidity Infusion Scheme under Atmanirbhar Bharat, Late Payment Surcharge Rules (LPS) etc.

## NSIC signs MoU with Walmart

- An MoU was signed between Walmart Global Sourcing India Private Limited and The National Small Industries Corporation Limited on 6 Dec 2022.
- Through this MoU NSIC will be able to extend the NSIC schemes and other services to MSMEs who would participate in various Vridhhi program.



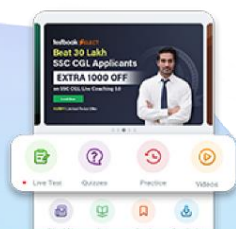
- MSMEs who are part of the NSIC ecosystem will also be linked to the Vridhhi program in relevant clusters.

### India, Germany sign Migration and Mobility Agreement

- A meeting was held between External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar and Federal Foreign Affairs Minister of Germany Annalena Baerbock in New Delhi on 5 Dec'22.
- Both sides have signed a Migration and Mobility Agreement which will facilitate easier access for people to study, research and work in both countries.
- Both sides discussed issues related to climate change, conflict in Ukraine, etc.

### REC Limited signs MoU with Power Finance Corporation for FY 2022-23

- REC Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Power Finance Corporation as per the DPE Performance Evaluation System for FY 2022-23.
- REC Limited is an NBFC focusing on Power Sector Financing and Development across India.
- Established in 1969, REC Limited has completed over fifty years in the area of its operations.



## National Current Affairs | December 2022

### CRPF celebrated 'Jashn-e-Chillai-Kalan' with students in Srinagar

- Chillai-Kalan (persian for major cold) is the harshest winter period in Kashmir for a period of 40-day starting from 21st December to 29th January every year.
- The cold waves will then carry forward with a 20 day stretch of "Chillai' Khurd' (small cold) followed by 10 days long "Chillai-Bacha' (baby cold).
- People celebrate this period with games and cultural activities in Kashmir valley.

### Ministry of Rural Development launches Prajwala Challenge

- It was launched under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).
- The challenge aim to invite ideas, solutions and actions that can transform rural economy.
- Focus areas under challenge are Inclusive Growth, Value Chain Interventions, and Enhanced Women Entrepreneurship.
- The top 5 ideas will be rewarded with Rs. 2 Lakh each.

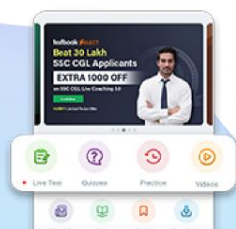
### Tribal Affairs Ministry, Amazon collaborate for future engineer program

- The program will empower teachers and students in the field of digital education.
- This will also engage digital communication with people living in far-flung areas.
- The program is being launched in 6 states—Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Telangana schools which have access to digital infrastructure including a computer lab and active internet connection.

### SwasthGarbh app developed by IIT Roorkee and AIIMS for pregnant women

- The mobile app provides antenatal care and real-time medical support to pregnant women.
- The app is accessible free of cost.
- It assists pregnant women by ensuring timely antenatal care visits, recording every clinical test and improving medication adherence.
- It can be a vital tool for women in rural areas and those who do not have easy access to doctors.

### Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurates mega dairy in Karnataka's Maddur



- Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah inaugurated Mega Dairy at Mandya in Karnataka on 30th Dec 2022.
- It will process 10 lakh litres of milk per day and will have the capacity to be scaled up to 14 lakh litres per day.
- The National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and the Ministry of Cooperation will establish a primary dairy in every panchayat of the country in the next three years.

### PM Modi lags off West Bengal's first Vande Bharata Express Train

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 30th December 2022 virtually flagged off Vande Bharat Express from Howrah Railway Station connecting Howrah to New Jalpaiguri.
- He also launched a stretch of Kolkata Metro Purple Line at the function.
- This is the first Vande Bharata Express to operate in West Bengal.
- Also, it is the seventh Vande Bharat train in the country operated by the Indian Railways.

### 'Bijli Utsav' organized by REC in Assam

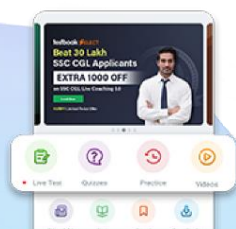
- It was organised on Dec 27 2022 as a part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' – to celebrate 75 years of Independence.
- REC Limited, a Maharatna Company under the Ministry of Power, Govt. of India organized 'Bijli Utsav' in Baksa district and adjoining villages in Assam.
- guest highlighted consumer rights of electricity and the challenges faced during electrification in their speech.

### Coal Ministry constructs 8 Eco-Parks to promote mine tourism

- Eight eco-parks have been constructed recently in different parts of the country by the Coal Ministry.
- Two more will be completed in the ongoing financial year.
- NLC India Ltd (NLCIL) has entered into a pact with Pondicherry Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) recently to promote eco-tourism at mine-I and mine-II and display sustainable mining activities.

### EC proposed Remote Electronic Voting Machine (RVM)

- In order to enable remote voting for domestic migrants, RVM was proposed.
- RVM relies on the creation of a robust electoral roll and identification mechanisms (to stop duplicate voting), and allow voters to vote remotely, in a safe and controlled environment.
- It was developed with the assistance of BEL and ECIL.





- It is based on the currently used EVM system.

### EC says ready to roll out pilot for migrants to vote remotely

- EC is ready to pilot remote voting for domestic migrants, so they don't have to travel back to their home states to vote.
- For this, the commission has developed a prototype for a Multi-Constituency Remote Electronic Voting Machine (RVM).
- The ECI will demonstrate the functioning of the remote EVM on January 16 to the eight national and 57 state political parties.

### GOI made capturing of attendance through NMMS universal for MNREGA

- Attendance will be done digitally using NMMS App.
- It has been made universal from January 1, 2023 through National Mobile Monitoring Software (NMMS) app.
- In May 2022, it was made compulsory for all worksites with 20 or more workers.
- NMMS App was launched by the Ministry of Rural Development.
- It aimed at bringing more transparency and ensuring proper monitoring of the schemes.

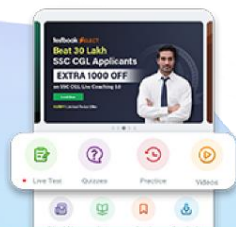
### Government extends free import of Urad and Tur pulses till March 2024

- The government of India has extended the free import of Urad and Tur pulses by one more year to 31 March 2024.
- Earlier in March 2022 the government had allowed free import of tur and urad till 31 March 2023.
- Now importers can import any quantity of urad and tur dal without any quantitative restrictions.
- In 2020-21 the total pulse production in India was 26.96 million tonnes.

### Amit Shah chairs conference of LGs, administrators of UTs in New Delhi

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah chaired the conference on development works in Union Territories in New Delhi on 29 Dec 2022.
- LGs and Administrators of UTs including from Delhi, Chandigarh, Andaman and Nicobar, Puducherry, Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir attended the conference.
- The conference reviewed the economic development, tourism & major schemes and future roadmap of the Union Territories.

### Home Minister Amit Shah launches 'Prahari' app for BSF Jawans



- The Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah launched the Mobile App 'Prahari' of the Border Security Force (BSF) in New Delhi on 29 December 2022.
- With the BSF 'Prahari' app, jawans can get personal information and information related to accommodation, Ayushman-CAPF and leaves on their mobiles.
- This app will also connect them with the portal of the Ministry of Home Affairs."

### **'Dhanu Yatra' began after gap of two years in Bargarh odisha**

- Dhanu Yatra is an annual drama-based open-air theatrical performance celebrated in Bargarh, Odisha.
- It is considered the largest open-air theatre in the world.
- Spread over five square km, the entire town of Bargarh turns into a stage for the yatra.
- The 'Dhanu Yatra' which marks the victory of good over evil, came into existence in Bargarh in 1947-48 and is held annually.

### **President lays foundation for pilgrimage infra at Ramappa Temple**

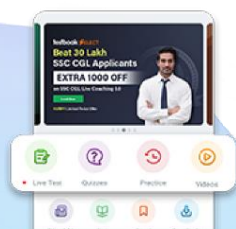
- Foundation stone was laid for the development of pilgrimage infrastructure at Ramappa temple, Telangana.
- It will be done under the 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' scheme.
- She also laid the foundation stone for 'Development of Pilgrimage and Heritage Infrastructure of UNESCO World Heritage Site at Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple' at Mulugu.

### **Ashwini Vaishnaw launches 'Stay Safe Online' Campaign**

- Union Minister of Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw on 28 December 2022 launched the 'Stay Safe Online' campaign and the 'Digital Innovation Alliance (DIA)' programme.
- It is among the first-ever programmes to be launched worldwide as a G-20 initiative.
- DIA programme is launched to recognise and support start-ups developing innovative digital solutions.

### **Department of Posts launches an 'Online request Transfer Portal'**

- The Department of Posts has launched an Online request Transfer Portal for Gramin Dak Sevaks on 28 December 2022.
- The Department of Posts has the largest network of Post Offices in the world consisting of more than 1,56,000 Post Offices across India.



- The entire transfer process of Dak Sevaks, and issuing transfer orders, has now been made paperless and simple through the above portal.

### NESTS to organise two-day capacity-building programme

- National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) under Tribal Affairs Ministry is organising a two-day capacity-building programme from 28 Dec 2022 for Eklavya Model Residential Schools teachers in Delhi.
- It is being organised for teachers from 54 Eklavya Model Residential Schools of six States.
- These states are Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Telangana.

### Lokayukta Bill passed by Maharashtra assembly

- Maharashtra assembly has passed the Lokayukta Bill 2022, which brings the chief minister and council of ministers under the ambit of the anti-corruption ombudsman.
- Maharashtra has become the 1st state to do so.
- According to the Bill, the Lokayukta will have to seek the approval of the assembly before initiating any inquiry against the CM and bringing a motion before the session of the house.

### Reserve Bank of India releases web publication

- The Reserve Bank has released its web publication entitled 'Statistical Tables relating to Banks in India: 2021-22' covering the activities of the Indian banking sector.
- The publication presents entity-wise information on major items of liabilities and assets along with their maturity profile; income and expenses; select financial ratios, number of employees etc.

### Maharashtra assembly passes a unanimous resolution

- Maharashtra Legislative Assembly has unanimously passed the resolution to include Marathi-speaking 865 villages as well as Belgaum, Nippani, Karwar, Bidar, and Bhalki in Maharashtra, which are in Karnataka at present.
- In the restructuring of the states in 1956, Belgaum excluding (Chandgad), Bijapur, Dharwad, and Karwar which was part of erstwhile Bombay State was merged with Mysore State.

### Power Ministry, DRDO sign MoU for installing Early Warning System

- Power Ministry and the Defence Research and Development Organisation, DRDO, have signed an MoU for implementation of Early Warning System for Vulnerable Hydro Projects and Power Stations on 27 Dec'22.



- It is to work jointly towards developing suitable mitigation measures against avalanches, landslides, and other geo-hazards.
- Govt has taken the initiative of implementing EWS in Hilly regions.

### Garuda Aerospace becomes 1st drone company to get double certification

- Garuda Aerospace has become the first drone startup in India on 25 December 2022 to receive 'Type Certification' and 'Remote Pilot Training Organisation' (RTPO) approval by the DGCA for its indigenously designed Kisan drone.
- Kisan Drone has been designed keeping in mind the works related to agriculture.
- India introduced type certification in August 2021 under the Drone Rules.

### 15 Start-ups selected by govt in product accelerator program 'NIRMAN'

- The Ministry of Science and Technology has announced that fifteen Startups selected for product accelerator program for innovators developing sustainable solutions in December 2022.
- Startup Incubation and Innovation Centre(SIIC) launched the NIRMAN Accelerator Program.
- It is the first cohort of the manufacturing accelerator program launched by IIT Kanpur.

### Rajya Sabha's productivity during the winter session recorded at 102%.

- On the final day of the winter session, the Rajya Sabha was adjourned sine die, with a productivity score of 102%.
- Jagdeep Dhankhar, the chairman of the Rajya Sabha, claims that in 13 sittings, functional time was 64 hours & 50 mins and productivity was 102%.
- 1,920 unstarred questions were answered in the 13 sittings, while 82 starred questions were resolved

### Union Minister Piyush Goyal unveils 'right to repair' portal

- Union Minister Piyush Goyal launched the Right to Repair portal in New Delhi on 24 December 2022.
- On the portal, manufacturers will share the manual of product details with customers so that they can either repair by self, by third parties.
- In July 2022, the Department of Consumer Affairs had set up a committee headed by Nidhi Khare to develop a comprehensive framework on 'Right to Repair'.

### Union Min Jitendra Singh launched revamped probity portal 'e-HRMS 2.0'

- Union Minister of State Science & Technology Dr Jitendra Singh has launched a revamped Probity Portal, e-HRMS 2.0 Portal on 25 December 2022.



- He also launched an e-Books on major Initiatives/Achievements of the Ministry of Personnel, PG & Pensions.
- The Revamped Probity Portal was launched for central government employees in 2017.
- It provided limited HR-related services to the employees.

### PM Modi addresses 75th Amrut Mahotsav of Swaminarayan Gurukul Sansthan

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the 75th Amrut Mahotsav of Shree Swaminarayan Gurukul Rajkot Sansthan on December 24, 2022.
- The five-day Amrit Mahotsav celebrations were inaugurated by CM Bhupendra Patel in Rajkot on 22 December.
- It was established in 1948 by Shri Dharmajivandasji Swami.
- Shree Swaminarayan Gurukul Rajkot Sansthan has more than 40 branches all over the world.

### Jyotiraditya Scindia launches country's first Green Steel Brand

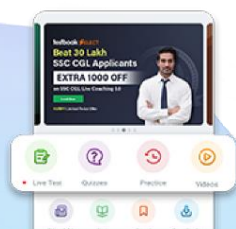
- Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia launched India's first Green Steel Brand "KALYANI FerRESTA" in New Delhi on 20 Dec 2022.
- It is a first-of-its-kind steel which has been manufactured by a Pune-based Steel company, Kalyani group by using renewable energy resources, leaving zero carbon footprints in the environment.
- The steel industry produces 7 percent of CO2 emissions internationally.

### Geological Survey of India to procure two coastal vessels

- The Ministry of Mines has approved the proposal of the Geological Survey of India (GSI) to procure two coastal vessels as a replacement to the existing vessels.
- The project is at an estimated cost of Rs.245.07 crore.
- The induction of these two coastal vessels will augment the exploration activities of GSI in the marine domain.

### Centre approves Bharat Biotech's nasal Covid vaccine for booster dose

- The Government has granted approval to Bharat Biotech's nasal Covid vaccine for booster dose.
- The nasal vaccine has been approved for those aged above 18 years.





- The nasal vaccine BBV154 had received approval of the Drugs Controller General of India in November 2022 for restricted use in an emergency situation for those above 18 as a heterologous booster dose.

### 3 cases of Omicron subvariant BF.7 found in India

- Union government has announced that three cases of Omicron subvariant BF.7 have been detected in India until 22 Dec 2022.
- So far, two cases have been reported from Gujarat and one from Odisha
- BF.7 is a sub-lineage of the Omicron variant BA.5 and has the strongest infection ability since it is highly transmissible, has a shorter incubation period, and a higher capacity to cause reinfection.

### IEX becomes India's first carbon-neutral power exchange

- Indian Energy Exchange (IEX) became the country's first carbon-neutral power exchange in December 2022.
- IEX voluntarily cancelled CERs (certified emissions reductions) from clean projects.
- As per UNEP 2022 report, global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions must be cut 45% by 2030 to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees.
- Total global GHG emissions were estimated at around 53 GTCO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2021.

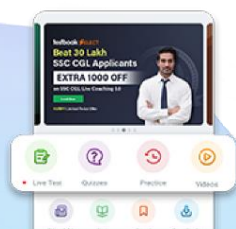
### Former athlete PT Usha nominated to Vice-chairman panel in Rajya Sabha

- Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar has nominated legendary former athlete and MP PT Usha to the panel of Vice chairpersons in the Upper House on 21 Dec 2022.
- YSRCP member Vijai Sai Reddy has also been nominated along with her.
- She was also elected as the president of the Indian Olympic Association in Dec 2022.
- PT Usha has won 4 Asian gold medals and 7 silver medals.

### India's manned space flight 'H1' to launch in fourth quarter of 2024

- Union minister of state for Space and Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh has announced that India's maiden human space flight 'H1' mission is targeted to be launched in the fourth quarter of 2024.
- The Gaganyaan project was conceived in 2007 and it was formally started in 2018.
- Four Indian Air Force pilots have been identified as crew for the mission who are undergoing training in Russia.

### Assam grants industry status to its tourism sector



- The Assam cabinet has approved the proposal for grant of industry status to the tourism sector in the state, to boost investments and generate employment.
- The newly-implemented policy aims for sustainable and environmentally friendly investment.
- The infrastructure will be developed through Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode, which will contribute to the overall development of the region.

### Ground survey of Pey Jal Survekshan begins under AMRUT 2.0

- Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has kickstarted the ground survey of Pey Jal Survekshan from 15th December 2022.
- The Pey Jal Survekshan under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) 2.0 was launched in September, 2022
- Scores will be assigned to the cities and city-water report cards, reflecting each city's water health, will be published.

### Guru Nanak Dev Univ becomes only in India to get A grade by NAAC

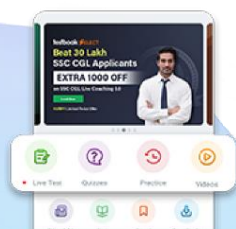
- The Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar has got A grade by scoring 3.85 points in National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) grading.
- It has become the only University in India to get this score.
- Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) is the only other educational institution with a higher grade of 3.89 in the country.

### IICA launches ESG Impact Leaders Program

- Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) has launched on 20th December 2022, a programme to create Impact Leaders in the areas of Environmental-Social-Governance (ESG).
- Impact Leader programme is designed as a comprehensive course on ESG giving a holistic understanding of the philosophy of ESG.
- The six month course comprising 8 self paced learning modules will be delivered online.

### N. Gadkari launches India's first-ever surety bond from Bajaj Allianz

- Union Minister for Road, Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari launched India's first surety bond insurance product from the Bajaj Allianz on 19 Dec'22.
- It is expected to reduce the need for bank guarantees for infrastructure developers.
- The Surety Bond Insurance is a risk transfer tool for the principal (the authority which has awarded the contract) and shields the principal from losses.



## India to be the first country to auction 'SatCom' Spectrum

- India will be the first country to auction spectrum for satellite communication.
- Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) will make recommendations to make permissions required for satellite communication from various ministries.
- Trai has received a reference from Telecom Department for the spectrum required to be put to auction and associated aspects of satellite-based communication.

## Indian Railways opens nation's longest 'escape tunnel' in Kashmir

- India's longest escape tunnel was completed by the Indian Railways on 15 December 2022.
- The track is 12.89 km long, built on the 111 km under-construction Banihal-Katra railway line in Jammu and Kashmir.
- This longest tunnel is part of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Railway Line (USBRL) project.
- The escape tunnel 'T-13' has been constructed to facilitate rescue work in case of an emergency.

## Amit Shah chairs the Eastern Zonal Council meeting in Kolkata

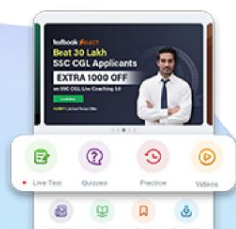
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah chaired a meeting of the Eastern Zonal Council in Kolkata on 17th Dec'22.
- In the meeting, issues like security along the inter-state borders, smuggling along the India-Bangladesh border, & connectivity were discussed.
- The Eastern Zonal Council comprises West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Odisha.
- It promotes cooperative and competitive federalism in the country.

## 63rd session of Indian Historical Records Committee begins in Lucknow

- The 63rd Session of the Indian Historical Records Committee (IHRC) was inaugurated in Lucknow on 18 December 2022.
- The event was inaugurated by Uttar Pradesh Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Transport, Daya Shankar Singh.
- The Indian Historical Records Committee (IHRC) is an all India Forum of creators, custodians and users of records which was set up in 1919.

## PM Modi to launch projects worth Rs 6,800 crore in Tripura, Meghalaya

- PM Narendra Modi will visit Tripura and Meghalaya on 18 December 2022.
- He will inaugurate and lay the foundation stones of projects worth more than Rs 6,800 crore there.



- He will also participate in the golden jubilee celebration of the North Eastern Council and attend its meeting in Shillong.
- In Agartala, he will launch the "Grih Pravesh" programme.

### Month-long Kashi Tamil Sangamam concludes in Varanasi

- The month-long Kashi Tamil Sangamam in Varanasi concluded on 16 December 2022.
- The month-long celebration of Kashi and Tamil Nadu began on 17 November 2022 with the first Kashi Tamil Sangamam special train leaving Tamil Nadu for Kashi.
- A number of activities ranging from academic sessions, cultural programmes, exhibitions, sports, films, etc. were held.

### AIIMS Delhi campus declared 'tobacco-free zone'

- The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi has been declared a 'Tobacco-Free Zone' in Dec 2022.
- AIIMS New Delhi was established in 1956 and is under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- Besides, smoking and spitting tobacco on the premises of the AIIMS will be a punishable offence for the patients, and visitors and the erring persons will be fined Rs 200.

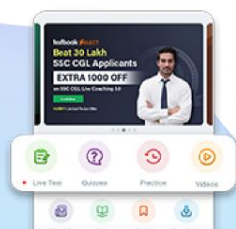
### 28th edition of the Kolkata International Film Festival begins

- The 28th edition of the Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF) organized by the Information and Cultural Affairs Department, Government of West Bengal is being held between 15 - 22 December, 2022 in Kolkata.
- The KIFF started in the year 1995.
- It had drawn inspiration from film legends Satyajit Ray, Ritwik Ghatak and Mrinal Sen who have contributed to world cinema.

### Atal Innovation Mission and UNDP launch 5th edition of Youth Co:Lab

- NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and UNDP India on 15 Dec 2022, launched the 5th edition of 'Youth Co:Lab' to support young social entrepreneurs.
- Launched in 2019, Youth Co:Lab is an UNDP India initiative that aims to establish a common agenda for Asia-Pacific countries to invest in and empower youths.
- The Youth Co:Lab initiative, till date, has been implemented in 28 countries.

### Aviation Minister launches direct flight between Mumbai & S. Francisco



- Union Minister of Civil Aviation and Steel Jyotiraditya M. Scindia inaugurated a direct flight between Mumbai and San Francisco on 15 December 2022.
- The newly-inducted Boeing 777-200LR aircraft will operate the flights on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.
- The launch of the Mumbai-San Francisco route will be followed by Mumbai-New York City (JFK), Mumbai-Frankfurt, and Mumbai-Paris.

### Narendra Singh Tomar chairs 32nd meeting of Board of Directors of NHB

- Union Agri Minister Shri Tomar chaired the 32nd meeting of the Board of Directors of the National Horticulture Board on Dec'22.
- It was decided in the meeting that the process of approval of horticulture projects would be simplified for the farmers.
- It will promote ease of doing business for the benefit of the farming community and generate more hi-tech commercial projects for NHB funding.

### Union MoS Dr B P Pawar inaugurates National Maternal Health Workshop

- Union MoS for Health and Family Welfare, Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar inaugurated the National Maternal Health Workshop in New Delhi on 14 Dec'22.
- Theme: "Striving for zero preventable maternal mortality".
- She also introduced the Maternal health guidance booklet for community health officers(CHOs).
- More than 3.6 crore pregnant women have received comprehensive antenatal care under this program.

### Parliament passes new delhi international arbitration centre bill

- Parliament has passed the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre (Amendment) Bill, 2022.
- It amends the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre Act, 2019.
- The Bill renames the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre as the India International Arbitration Centre.
- It also allows the government to provide for removing any difficulties in implementing the Act for up to five years.

### Culture Ministry set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres

- Ministry of Culture has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) with headquarters at Patiala, Nagpur, Udaipur, Prayagraj, Kolkata, Dimapur and Thanjavur.





- These centres aim to conserve and develop art, culture and crafts across the country.
- The government provides regular annual grant-in-aid for conducting various activities and programmes to ZCCs.

### Aam Aadmi Party becomes 9th 'National party' of India

- Aam Aadmi Party has become the 9th 'National party' of India Within a decade of its formation in Dec'22.
- AAP has become India's 9th national party with its performance in the Gujarat elections.
- The Election Commission of India gives national and state tags to parties, which allows them to use their symbol across India or in a respective state.
- ECI Formed: 25 Jan 1950
- Chairman: Rajiv Kumar

### PM Narendra Modi inaugurates Mopa International Airport in Goa

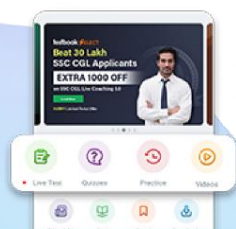
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Mopa International Airport in Goa, which has been named after former Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar, in December 2022.
- The new airport is capable of handling large aircraft such as the Airbus A380.
- It has been built at a cost of 2,870 crore rupees.
- The commercial flights from the new airport will start from January 5 2022.

### Kerala seed farm declared as first carbon neutral farm in India

- Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan on 10 Dec 2022 declared a seed farm, located in Aluva, as the first carbon-neutral farm in the country.
- The Kerala govt has announced to start of Carbon-neutral farms in all its assembly constituencies.
- Women's associations will be formed to implement this in tribal areas.
- As many as 170 tons of more carbon have been procured at the farm.

### Maharashtra Gov to set up the first divyang department in India

- Maharashtra is the first state in India to set up a separate department for Divyang.
- It is established to serve the physically & mentally disabled people in the state both educationally and professionally.
- It seeks to ensure the welfare of the Divyangs & effectively implement various government schemes targeting them.



- It is expected to hire 2,000 special trainers for different disabilities.

### Meghalaya Gov launches Asia's first Drone delivery hub

- The Meghalaya Gov in partnership with startup TechEagle has unveiled Asia's first drone delivery hub & network.
- It is aimed at providing universal access to healthcare for the netizens
- It will be delivering vital supplies like drugs, diagnostic samples, vaccines, blood and blood components.
- The first official drone flight took off from Jengjal Sub Divisional Hospital.

### Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Mela to be held on 12 December

- The Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Mela (PMNAM) will be held on Dec 12th in 197 Districts across India.
- Various companies will participate in the Event.
- During the event candidates who have passed classes 5 -12 and have skill training certificates, and ITI Diploma holders may apply.
- The event is being used as a platform to boost institutions' and students' participation.

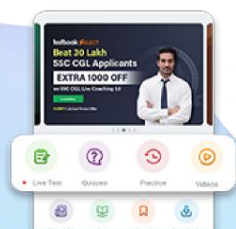
### Adani Green becomes World's Largest Wind-Solar Hybrid Power Developer

- Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) has become the becomes world's largest wind-solar hybrid power developer in December 2022.
- Adani Green Energy Lid (AGER) commissioned its third wind-solar hybrid power plant at Jaisalmer in Rajasthan in December 2022.
- Earlier, in May 2022, AGER had operationalized India's first hybrid power plant of 390 MW.
- AGEL Founded: 2015
- AGEL HQ: Ahmedabad

### TRAI proposes introduction of Calling Name Presentation

- The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has proposed the introduction of Calling Name Presentation (CNAP).
- The feature would provide the called individual with information about the calling party.
- The idea is to ensure that telephone subscribers are able to make an informed choice about incoming calls and curb harassment by unknown or spam callers.

### India granted In-Principle approval to set up 21 Greenfield Airports



- MoCA accorded 'in-principal' approval for the setting up of 21 greenfield airports of which 9 have been operationalised.
- Development of a Greenfield airport is governed under the Greenfield Airports Policy, 2008.
- Airports will be established in Goa, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Puducherry, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Sikkim, Kerala & Arunachal Pradesh.

### 9th World Ayurveda Congress and Arogya Expo 2022 inaugurated in Goa

- It is being organized in Goa from 8 to 11 Dec 2022.
- It was inaugurated by the Union Minister of State for Tourism and Shipping, Ports and Waterways Shripad Naik, CM Pramod Sawant and Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha.
- It aims to showcase the efficacy and strength of the AYUSH systems of medicine at the Global level.
- PM Narendra Modi will attend the valedictory function of WAC on 11 December.

### ISRO will develop Spatial Data Infrastructure geoportal for Ladakh

- Union Minister of State Dr Jitendra Singh has informed that Government of Ladakh has approached the Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS) for developing Spatial Data Infrastructure geoportal 'Geo-Ladakh'.
- the project encompasses spatial database generation using remote sensing and geospatial techniques.
- An MoU was also signed between IIRS (ISRO) and UT-Ladakh Administration in Jan 2022.

### Dr Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurates FAI Annual Seminar at New Delhi

- Union Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the Fertiliser Association of India (FAI) Annual Seminar 2022 in New Delhi in Dec 2022.
- He also released three FAI publications and FAI Data portal.
- This portal will create a uniform data base.
- FAI Annual Seminar 2022 is devoted to the theme 'Fertilizer Sector by 2030'.

### India's 1st Drone Training Conference inaugurated by Anurag Thakur

- Union Minister Anurag Thakur inaugurates India's first Drone Skill Training Conference in Chennai on 06 Dec'22.

- He also launched 1000 planned Drone Centre of Excellence at Garuda Aerospace's Manufacturing unit in Chennai, and also flagged off Garuda Aerospace's Drone Yatra, 'Operation 777'.
- Operation 777' is meant to demonstrate the efficacy of drones across 777 districts in India.

### Telemedicine service eSanjeevani achieves 8 crore teleconsultations

- Government telemedicine service, eSanjeevani has crossed eight crore teleconsultations in December 2022.
- eSanjeevani strives to provide an alternative to conventional physical consultations through a digital platform.
- The scheme was started in November 2019.
- It is run by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- It is also called the National Teleconsultation Service.

### Centre approves formation of an Advisory Group for bamboo sector

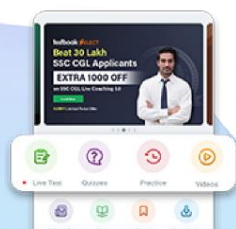
- Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has approved the formation of an Advisory Group for streamlining the development of the Bamboo sector.
- The Advisory Group has a representation of various stakeholders including academicians, researchers, innovators, etc.
- The restructured National Bamboo Mission was launched during 2018-19 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

### PM to dedicate three national Ayush institutes to nation on Dec 10

- PM Modi will dedicate three national Ayush institutes to the nation on 10 Dec'22 at the 9th World Ayurveda Congress in Goa.
- The three institutes include, All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIA) in Goa, National Institute of Unani Medicine (NIUM) in Ghaziabad and National Institute of Homoeopathy (NIH) in Delhi.
- They will further strengthen the research and facilitate affordable Ayush services.

### Millets-Smart Nutritive Food Conclave held in New Delhi

- To promote the export of millets, the government organised a day-long 'Millets-Smart Nutritive Food' Conclave in New Delhi on December 5, 2022.
- The conclave was a pre-launch event of the International Year of Millets - 2023.



- At the first-of-its-kind Millets Conclave, the government released e-catalogue on 30 potential importing countries and 21 millet producing states of India.

### **NADA develops App to assist athletes to verify prohibited substances**

- The National Anti-Doping Agency of India (NADA) is developing Apps to assist athletes to verify medicines with prohibited substances.
- NADA India is also in process of sensitising 20 Dope Control Officers to specialise in collecting samples of Athletes with Disabilities.
- NADA is responsible for coordinating, and monitoring the doping control program in sports in India.

### **Civil Aviation Minister launches direct flight from Pune to Singapore**

- Minister of Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia has flagged off a direct international flight from Pune to Singapore by Vistara aviation on 2 December 2022.
- Singapore is a key market for business and leisure travel from various points in India.
- Singapore and Pune have historical and cultural heritage and are constantly growing to become a hub for innovation, education, and development.

### **India to assume chairmanship of Wassenaar arrangement on 1 Jan 2023**

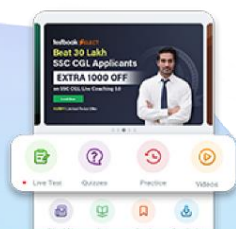
- India will assume chairmanship of the plenary of the Wassenaar Arrangement for a year on January 1, 2023.
- At the 26th annual plenary of the Wassenaar Arrangement held in Vienna from November 30-December 1, Ireland's ambassador Eoin O'Leary handed over the chairmanship to India's ambassador Jaideep Mazumdar.
- India joined the Wassenaar Arrangement in Dec 2017 as its 42nd participating state.

### **Civil Aviation Minister launches Digi Yatra for 3 Airports in India**

- Union Minister for Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia, on 01 December 2022, launched Digi Yatra for three airports in the country, namely New Delhi, Varanasi and Bengaluru.
- The Digi Yatra project is conceived by Digi Yatra Foundation under the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- Digi Yatra to Achieve Contactless, Seamless Processing of Passengers at Airports Based on Facial Recognition Technology.

### **FSSAI Approves Himalayan 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 that are raised and used for food production or consumption by humans.
- YAK is a mountain cow that lives at the world's highest altitudes.
- In India, Yak is found in the Himalayan region, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh and Jammu, Kashmir, etc.

### India to illuminate 100 Iconic Monuments with G20 logo From 1-7 Dec

- The Government of India has decided to illuminate 100 monuments in the country with the G20 logo on 1 December 2022 to mark the first day of India's Presidency of the G-20 group.
- These 100 sites include Humayun's Tomb and Purana Quila, Agra Fort, Modhera Sun Temple in Gujarat, and Sun Temple in Odisha etc.
- India will be holding the G-20 presidency from 1 December 2022 to 30 November 2023.



## Appointments Current Affairs | December 2022

### BSE appoints Sundararaman Ramamurthy as MD, CEO

- Ramamurthy will join as the Managing Director and chief executive officer (CEO) of the exchange from January 4, 2023.
- He has been appointed for a tenure of five years.
- The position has been vacant since July 2022 when then MD and CEO Ashishkumar Chauhan resigned.
- Until recently he was the MD & Chief Operating Officer in Indian arm of Bank of America.

### Ajit Saxena takes charge as the Chairman-cum-Managing Director of MOIL

- Ajit Kumar Saxena has assumed the charge of Chairman-Cum-Managing Director of the public sector enterprise MOIL Limited on 30 December 2022.
- He previously held the position of Director (Operations) at RINL-Visakhapatnam Steel Plant.
- He has 36 years' experience in the Steel Sector.
- He is a recipient of "Young Metallurgy of the year Award" for the year 2000 from Ministry of Steel.

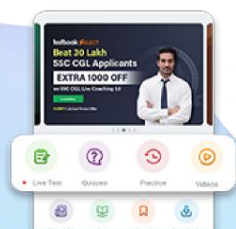
### G Kamala Vardhan Rao appointed the chief executive officer of FSSAI

- G Kamala Vardhana Rao was appointed the chief executive officer (CEO) of the Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on 29 December 2022.
- G Kamala Vardhana Rao is a 1990 batch IAS officer from Kerala cadre.
- He was previously the managing director of the Indian Tourism Development Corporation.
- Rao was also the secretary of Kerala Tourism.
- FSSAI Headquarters: New Delhi

### Rajeev Badyal named to the National Space Council's UAG

- Vice President Kamala Harris has named Indian American Rajeev Badyal to a key national space users advisory group (UAG).
- The group is tasked to maintain a robust and responsible US space enterprise and preserve space for current and future generations.
- Kamala Harris had named US Air Force Rtd General Lester Lyles as chair of the UAG.

### Praveen Kumar appointed acting Central Vigilance Commissioner(CVC)



- The government of India appointed the vigilance commissioner Praveen Kumar Srivastava as the acting Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) on 28 December 2022.
- The incumbent CVC chief Suresh N Patel completed his term on 24 December 2022.
- Srivastava is a 1988-batch (retired) Indian Administrative Service officer of the Assam-Meghalaya cadre.
- He retired on 31 January 2022.

### Lt Gen Arvind Walia appointed next Engineer-in-Chief of Indian Army

- Lieutenant General Arvind Walia has been appointed as the next Engineer-in-Chief of the Indian Army on 27 December 2022.
- He would be succeeding Lt Gen Harpal Singh who is superannuating on December 31.
- An officer of the 1986 batch, Lt Gen Walia is an alumnus of the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun.
- He was also an instructor at the College of Defence Management in Secunderabad.

### Baskar Babu re-appointed as Suryoday Bank's CEO & MD for 3 years

- The Reserve Bank of India has approved the re-appointment of Baskar Babu Ramachandran as MD & CEO of Suryoday Small Finance Bank for three years with effect from January 23, 2023.
- Suryoday Small Finance Bank (Suryoday SFB) is a scheduled commercial bank.
- The SFB commenced its business with effect from January 23, 2017.
- The bank has a wide presence across 13 states and UTs across India.

### Sanjay Singh elected as president of IOOA

- Indian Oil Officers Association (IOOA) has announced that Sanjay Singh has been elected all-India president of Indian Oil Officers' Association.
- The newly elected apex body of IOOA comprises Sanjay Singh, president; Rituraj Barooah, vice president; Anoop Singh, general secretary; Syed Qamar Ahmed, general treasurer; and Bal Krishan Prajapati, additional general secretary.

### Santosh Kumar Yadav appointed as the chairman of NHAI

- Government of India has appointed Santosh Kumar Yadav as the chairman of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) on 26 December 2022.
- He is a 1995-batch IAS officer of the UP cadre.

- He is currently additional secretary in the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education.
- Subhasish Panda has also been appointed as Delhi Development Authority (DDA) vice chairman.

### **SBI Funds appoints Shamsher Singh as its new MD and CEO**

- SBI Funds Management Limited (SBIFML) has announced the appointment of Shamsher Singh as its new MD & CEO in December 2022.
- SBIFML is a joint venture between State Bank of India and Amundi, Europe's largest asset manager.
- He has more than 32 years of rich experience working with State Bank of India in various verticals
- He joined State Bank of India as Probationary Officer in June 1990.

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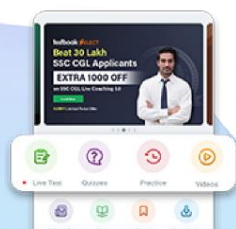
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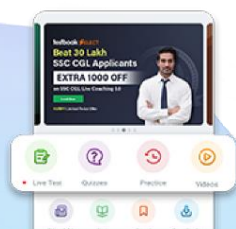
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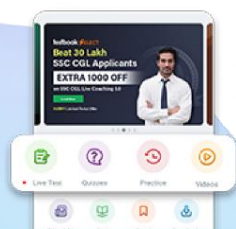
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- He joined State Bank of India as Probationary Officer in June 1990.

### Union Govt appoints Anil Kumar Lahoti as new Chairman of Railway Board

- Anil Kumar Lahoti has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Railway Board on 26th December 2022.
- He was a former general manager of Central Railway.
- He was appointed as a member of the board in December 2022.
- He will take over the chairmanship from Vinay Kumar Tripathi on January 1, 2023.
- He is a 1984-batch Indian Railway Service of Engineers (IRSE) officer.

### Pushpa Dahal 'Prachanda' appointed Nepal's new Prime Minister



- President Bidya Devi Bhandari of Nepal appointed Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' as the new prime minister of Nepal on 25 December 2022.
- He will become the prime minister for the third time.
- He has formed a coalition government with the support of other parties.
- He will replace Sher Bahadur Deuba of the Nepali Congress party as the PM.
- The parliament of Nepal is called Sanghiya Sansad.

### US President nominates Richard Verma to top diplomatic position

- US President Joe Biden nominated Indian American Richard R Verma as Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources on 20 December 2022.
- He is the Chief Legal Officer and Head of Global Public Policy at Mastercard.
- He was the United States Ambassador to India and Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Affairs during the Obama administration.

### Suhel Ajaz Khan appointed as next Ambassador of India to Saudi Arabia

- Dr. Suhel Ajaz Khan has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on 22 Dec 2022.
- He is a 1997-batch Indian Foreign Service officer and is presently serving as Indian ambassador to Lebanon.
- He will replace Dr. Ausaf Sayeed, a 1989 batch IFS officer.
- He worked at the Indian Embassy in Riyadh between September 2017 and June 2019 as Deputy Chief of Mission.

### Aloke Singh appointed head of Air India's low cost airline business

- Aloke Singh appointed as the chief of Air India's low-cost airline business from January 1, 2023.
- The Low Cost Carrier (LCC) business will comprise AirAsia India and Air India Express.
- AirAsia India was launched in 2014 while Air India Express started operations in 2005.
- Currently, four airlines are part of the Tata group.
- They are Air India, Air India Express, AirAsia India and Vistara.

### PUMA India appointed Anushka Sharma as its new brand ambassador

- Puma India has roped in Bollywood actor and entrepreneur Anushka Sharma as its new brand ambassador in December 2022.

- The association is intended to "accelerate Puma's strong commitment towards the women consumer segment".
- The brand's other ambassadors in India include Kareena Kapoor Khan, MC Mary Kom, Yuvraj Singh, Sunil Chhetri, and most recently Harrdy Sandhu.

## Senior scientist Dinesh Kumar Shukla named as new chairman of AERB

- Senior nuclear scientist Dinesh Kumar Shukla has been appointed as the chairperson of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) for a period of three years on 20 December 2022.
- He joined the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) in the year 1981 after completing the 25th batch of BARC Training School.
- AERB Founded: 15 November 1983;
- AERB Headquarters: Mumbai.

## Major General Mohit Seth takes over as GOC Kilo force

- Major General Mohit Seth took over as the General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the Counter Insurgency Force Kilo on 20 Dec'22.
- He has held various prestigious staff and command appointments in J&K, North East and at Army HQ.
- He has also served as Indian Army Liaison Officer, High Commission of India, United Kingdom.

## Cindy Hook appointed CEO of 2032 Olympic organising committee

- American executive Cindy Hook has been appointed as CEO of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games in December 2022.
- She is currently a member of the Great Barrier Reef Foundation and the Singapore Economic Development Board.
- She became CEO of the Australian operation in 2015.
- The International Olympic Committee in July 2021 decided to host the 2032 Games in Brisbane, Australia.

## Harvard University appoints Claudine Gay as first black President

- Harvard University appointed Claudine Gay, a dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science, as its new President on 16 December 2022.
- She is the first African American to hold the post at the university.
- She is also the 2nd woman to be elected to head the school in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

- She will take over as the university's 30th president on July 1, 2023, and will succeed Lawrence S. Bacow.

### Mette Frederiksen has been re-elected as the PM of Denmark

- Mette Frederiksen has been re-elected as Denmark PM.
- She is the Danish politician who has been Prime Minister of Denmark since June 2019.
- She is also the youngest prime minister in Danish history.
- Denmark is a Scandinavian country comprising the Jutland Peninsula and numerous islands.

### World Health Organization names Sir Jeremy Farrar as Chief Scientist

- World Health Organization (WHO) announced Dr Jeremy Farrar as its new Chief Scientist.
- He is a clinician scientist who, before joining Wellcome Trust in 2013, spent 17 years as Director of the Clinical Research Unit at the Hospital for Tropical Diseases in Vietnam.
- He will oversee the Science Division, bringing together the best brains in science and innovation from around the world.

### Two additional judges of Chattisgarh HC appointed as permanent judges

- The Central government has notified the appointment of two additional judges of the Chattisgarh High Court as permanent judges.
- Justices Narendra Kumar Vyas and Naresh Kumar are thet
- As on 1st November 2022, the Chattisgarh High Court which has a sanctioned strength of 22 judges, is functioning with 14 judges, a vacancy position of 8.

### Justice Dipankar Dutta takes oath as judge of Supreme Court

- Justice Dipankar Dutta took oath as a judge of the Supreme Court on 12 December 2022.
- Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud administered the oath to Justice Dutta in the swearing-in ceremony in the Supreme Court.
- With the appointment of Justice Dutta, the Supreme Court will have 28 judges out of the strength of 34 judges.
- Justice Dutta will have a term till February 8, 2030.

### PT Usha becomes first woman president of Indian Olympic Association

- PT Usha was elected as the first woman president of Indian Olympic Association (IOA) on 10 Dec'22.
- Ajay Patel, Gagan Narang and Rajlaxmi S. Deo have been elected as vice presidents.



- She is a multiple Asian Games gold medallist and fourth place finisher in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics 400m hurdles final.
- The elections were held under the supervision of SC appointed retired SC judge L N Rao.

### Meghna Ahlawat has been elected as first female president of TTFI

- Meghna Ahlawat was elected president of the Table Tennis Federation of India in Dec'22.
- Meghna Ahlawat has been elected its first female President.
- While, 8th-time national champion K. Mehta took over as the new secretary general of the TTFI, and P.N Reddy has been elected as the Treasurer of the TFI.
- Ahlawat is the wife of Haryana Dy. CM Dushyant Chautala.

### Sukhvinder Sukhu takes oath as new CM of Himachal Pradesh

- Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, a former Congress state chief, took oath as the new Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh on 11 Dec 2022.
- He is the 4-time incumbent MLA of the Nadaun assembly constituency of Himachal Pradesh.
- He was born on 27 March 1964 in Sera village of Nadaun tehsil of Hamirpur district.
- He is a lawyer by education, having graduated from Himachal Pradesh University.

### AAP's Bobby elected first transgender member of MCD

- New Delhi has got its first transgender councillor after Bobby Kinnar has won the series polls from sultanpuri A-ward.
- Earlier, Bobby had contested the civic polls in 2017 as an independent candidate.
- She is also the president 'Hindu Yuva Samaj Ekta Awam Anti-Terrorism Committee' Delhi unit.
- She is well known in Sultanpuri for her extensive social work.

### KV Shaji Appointed as the New Chairman of NABARD

- K V Shaji appointed as the Chairman of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) on 8 Dec 2022.
- Previously, he served as NABARD's Deputy MD till May 21, 2020.
- He is an agricultural graduate with a PGDM in Public Policy from the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) in Ahmedabad.
- Nabard was set up by Indira Gandhi on 05 Nov 1982 with an initial capital of Rs.100 crore.

### NDDB appoints Meenesh C Shah as its Managing Director





- Government appointed Meenesh C Shah as the Managing Director of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) on 9 December 2022.
- The National Dairy Development Board is a statutory body set up in 1965.
- It is under the ownership of Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying of the Government of India.
- Its headquarters is located in Anand, Gujarat.
- Founder: Verghese Kurien

### Sushmita Shukla appointed first VP of Federal Reserve Bank of New York

- Indian-origin Sushmita Shukla has been appointed as First Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York on 9 December 2022.
- She started as V-P of Enterprise Business Solutions in 2016 and then served as interim V-P of Enterprise Transformation in 2017.
- The Fed Bank of New York is one of 12 regional Reserve Banks which make up the Federal Reserve System.

### Bhupendra Patel to take oath as Gujarat CM on 12 December

- Bhupendra Patel will take oath as the 17 Chief Minister of Gujarat on 12 December 2022.
- Patel is an MLA from the Ghatlodia seat, a post previously held by Anandiben Patel.
- He had also served as the chairman of the Standing Committee of Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation and Ahmedabad Urban Development Authority (AUDA).
- He has been serving as the CM of Gujarat since September 2021.

### Dina Boluarte assumes office as first female President of Peru

- Dina Boluarte has created history by becoming Peru's first female President.
- She was appointed after Congress ousted former president Pedro Castillo.
- She is the sixth Peruvian president in less than five years.
- Boluarte's term will extend through July 2026.
- On July 29, 2021, she was sworn in as Minister for Development and Social Inclusion, a position she held until November 25, 2022.

### Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrasekaran Appointed Chair of B20 India

- N Chandrasekaran was appointed the chair of B20 India and led the business agenda during India's G20 presidency on 7 Dec 2022.



- Chandrasekaran is Chairman of the board of Tata Sons, the promoter of more than 100 Tata group companies.
- The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) is appointed as the B20 India Secretariat by the Union govt to lead the B20 India process.

### Arun Kumar Singh appointed Chairman of ONGC for tenure of 3 yrs

- Former BPCL chairman Arun Kumar Singh has been appointed as Chairman of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC).
- Vetsa Rama Krishna Gupta has taken over the additional charge of Chairman and Managing Director of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), post superannuation of Arun Kumar Singh.
- ONGC had been without a regular chairman and managing director since April 2021.

### H. Kanitkar Appointed Batting Coach of Indian Women's Cricket

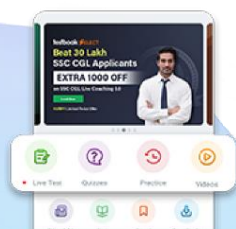
- BCCI appointed former cricketer Hrishikesh Kanitkar as the new batting coach of the India women's team on 6 Dec'22.
- He will join the side from the upcoming five-match T20I series against Australia starting on 9 Dec'22.
- Kanitkar played two Tests and 34 ODIs for India between 1997 and 2000.
- He was also the coach of India's U19 team, which won the ICC Under-19 Men's Cricket World Cup in 2022.

### Smartwatch company 'Noise' appoints Virat Kohli as brand ambassador

- India's consumer tech brand, Noise appointed Virat Kohli as its new brand ambassador on 4 Dec 2022.
- Gaurav Khatri is a co-founder of Noise.
- Noise and Virat Kohli- both are leaders in the smart connected lifestyle industry and the cricket world respectively.
- According to International Data Corporation, in 2021, India-based vendors captured over 65% of shipments in the TWS category.

### Hansraj Gangaram Ahir appointed as the new NCBC chairperson

- Hansraj Gangaram Ahir appointed as Chairperson of National Commission for Backward Classes on 2 December 2022.
- He belongs to Maharashtra and is an Agriculturist by profession.



- He belongs to District Chandrapur, State of Maharashtra.
- He had been Union Minister of State for Home Affairs and Union Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India during the 16th Lok Sabha.

### Vijender Sharma elected president of ICAI

- Vijender Sharma has been elected as the new president of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India for the year 2022-23.
- Rakesh Bhalla was elected as the vice president for 2022-23.
- V. Sharma is a fellow member of ICAI and a law graduate and a leading practicing cost accountant since 1998 and an insolvency professional since January 2017.

### GroupM South Asia CEO Prasanth Kumar elected president of AAI

- Prasanth Kumar has been elected as the president of the Advertising Agencies Association of India (AAI) at its annual general body meeting in November 2022.
- He is the CEO of the South Asia of GroupM Media (India) Pvt Ltd.
- He has an experience of over 25 years in the Industry.
- He has served as AAI's vice president from 2020-22.
- Rana Barua was elected vice-president of the association.

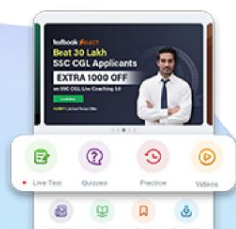
### Sanjay Kumar appointed as secretary of Department of School Education

- AS Sanjay Kumar took charge as Secretary of the Department of School Education & Literacy on 01 December 2022.
- He is a 1990-batch Bihar cadre IAS officer and was a former Secretary, of the Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs, and Sports.
- He replaced Anita Karwal IAS upon her superannuation on November 30, 2022.

### Sanjay Malhotra takes charge as the new Revenue Secretary

- Senior bureaucrat Sanjay Malhotra took charge as the secretary in Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance on 1 December 2022.
- He replaced Tarun Bajaj, who superannuated on November 30.
- He is 1990-batch IAS officer of the Rajasthan cadre.
- He was working as an officer on special duty (OSD) in the revenue department since October 2022.

### Uttarakhand Government appoints Prasoon Joshi as its Brand Ambassador



- Praseon Joshi has been appointed by Uttarakhand Government as the state's brand ambassador in November 2022.
- He is a prominent and highly awarded member of the Indian advertising and media fraternity.
- In November 2022, the Uttarakhand government also bestowed on Joshi the Uttarakhand Gaurav Samman honour for his contributions to art, literature, culture and advertising.



## Obituaries Current Affairs | December 2022

### Brazil's legendary footballer Pele passes away at the age of 82

- Brazilian football legend Pele, who won a record three World Cups passed away at the age of 82 on 28th December 2022.
- Pelé was born in 1940 in Tres Carcass, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- He was the only player to win the World Cup three times.
- He was named Fifa's Player of the Century in 2000.
- He is credited with scoring a world record of 1,281 goals in 1,363 appearances.

### England 1966 Football World Cup winner George Cohen passes away

- England's 1966 World Cup-winning right back George Cohen died aged 83 on 23 December 2022.
- He scored six league goals in his 459 appearances between 1956 and 1969.
- England claims their first World Cup title with a 4-2 victory over West Germany in 1966.
- Until 1967, Cohen represented England in 37 matches.
- He also served as vice-captain of Sir Alf Ramsey for the match against West Germany.

### Legendary Telugu actor Kaikala Satyanarayana passes away

- Legendary Telugu actor Kaikala Satyanarayana passed away in December 2022.
- Sri Ranga Neethulu was one of his well known films.
- He was also a producer, director and politician.
- In his career spanning over six decades, Satyanarayana received a number of awards, including a Filmfare Lifetime Achievement Award and two Nandi Awards.

### Pepsi former chief PM Sinha passes away

- Priya Mohan Sinha, former chief executive of PepsiCo India who first 'Indianised' colas in India, passed away in December 2022.
- He headed PepsiCo's India business for a decade, between 1993-2003.
- He worked with Hindustan Unilever for more than a decade before joining PepsiCo India in 1993.
- Sinha joined Bata as chairman in 2004 and is credited with restructuring the company.

### Grammy-winning songwriter Shirley Eikhard passes away at 67





- Shirley Eikhard, the singer-songwriter who penned Bonnie Raitt's 1991 hit 'Something to Talk About,' passed away in December 2022.
- She was awarded the best pop vocal performance at the 1992 Grammy Awards and was also nominated in the record of the year category.
- "Something to Talk About" inspired the title of the 1995 Warner Bros. movie starring Julia Roberts and Dennis Quaid.

### Longewala battle hero Lance Naik Bhairon Singh Rathore passes away

- Lance Naik Bhairon Singh Rathore, a BSF veteran and hero of the 1971 India-Pakistan War, passed away in Jodhpur at the age of 81 on 20 Dec 2022.
- The BSF veteran's bravery at Rajasthan's Longewala post during the war was portrayed by actor Suniel Shetty in the Bollywood movie 'Border'.
- He served in the 14th BSF unit during the war and retired from service in 1987.

### Hawaii's last Princess, Abigail Kawananakoa passes away at 96

- Abigail Kinoiki Kekaulike Kawānanakoa, a Hawaiian princess passed away at the age of 96 in Honolulu, Hawaii, in December 2022.
- She was born on 23rd April 1926 in Honolulu, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii.
- Iolani Palace, the royal residence of the rulers of the Kingdom of Hawaii, is the only royal residence in the United States of America.
- She was a symbol of Hawaiian national identity.

### Prominent football journalist Grant Wahl dies in Qatar

- A prominent football journalist from the United States Grant Wahl, passed away in December 2022.
- He had worked with media outlets including Fox Sports.
- After leaving Sports Illustrated in 2020, he began publishing his podcast and newsletter.
- He is also the author of the book The Beckham Experiment (2009).

### Veteran Lavani Singer Sulochana Chavan passes away at the age of 92

- Renowned Lavani singer Sulochana Chavan passed away on 10 Dec'22.
- She was one of the most well-known singers in traditional Maharashtrian musical genre.
- Chavan has been awarded the Padma Shri in Mar'22.

- She has also been conferred the title of "Lavanisamradhni" (Queen of Lavani) for her singing contribution to the art genre.
- She was awarded the Lata Mangeshkar Award for the year 2010.

### **Veteran Kannada actor Krishna G Rao passes away at the age of 70**

- Veteran Kannada actor Krishna G Rao, best known for playing a visually impaired man in the KGF franchise, passed away at the age of 70 on 8 December 2022.
- Krishna G Rao also played the lead role in an upcoming Kannada film, titled Nano Narayanappa.
- In the KGF movie, he played the role of an aging supporting actor who is in dire need of money for the hospital treatment of his wife.

### **Rock and Roll Hall of Fame member Jim Stewart passes away at 92**

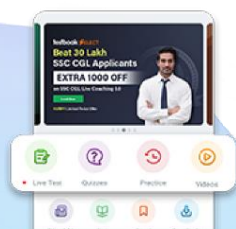
- Jim Stewart, who established the Stax Records label and created some of the greatest soul records of the 1960s, passed away on Monday at the age of 92 on 6 Dec'22.
- In 1957, Stewart and Al Bell co-founded the renowned Black music label with headquarters in Memphis.
- He was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2002.

### **Eminent economist YK Alagh passes away on 6 December 2022**

- Yoginder K Alagh, a well-known economist, former minister, and an emeritus professor at Ahmedabad-based Sardar Patel Institute of Economic and Social Research (SPIESR) passed away on 06 Dec 2022.
- He was born in Chakwal (in present-day Pakistan) in 1939.
- Professor Y.K. Alagh was passionate about various aspects of public policy, particularly rural development, the environment, and economics.

### **Yakshagana artist Kumble Sundar Rao passes away**

- Well-known Yakshagana and Talamaddale artiste and former MLA Kumble Sundar Rao passed away in December 2022.
- Rao was an exponent of Thenkuthittu style of Yakshagana and the MLA serving Surathkal constituency from 1994 to 1999.
- As an artiste, he had served in Surathkal and Dharmasthala yakshagana mela.
- Sundar Rao had served as president of Karnataka State Yakshagana Academy.



### 'City of Joy' author Dominique Lapierre passes away at 91

- The Author of bestselling books "Freedom at Midnight" and "City of Joy" Dominique Lapierre died on 4 Dec'22
- Dominique Lapierre in partnership with USA writer Larry Collins wrote six books that have sold more than 50 million copies worldwide.
- 'City of joy' was about the hardships of a rickshaw puller in Kolkata & 'Freedom at Midnight' was about the Independence movement in India.

### Oscar award winner documentarian Julia Reichert passes away at 76

- Veteran documentarian and Oscar awardee, Julia Reichert passed away at the age of 76 on 3 December 2022.
- She won an Oscar in 2020 for her feature 'American Factory.'
- Reichert spent 28 years teaching film production at Wright State University in addition to being a filmmaker.
- She received two Oscar nominations in 1984 and in 2010.

### Veteran Odia Film Actress Jharana Das Passes Away At 77

- Veteran Odia film actress Jharana Das passed away on 2 December 2022.
- She was given the state government's prestigious 'Jaydev Puraskar' for her lifetime contribution to the Odia film industry.
- She is known for her memorable roles in films 'Malajahna', 'Amadabata', 'Adina Megha', 'Abhinetri', and many more Odia classics.
- She also won the Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra award in 2016.

### Former Chinese president, Jiang Zemin passes away at 96

- Former Chinese President Jiang Zemin passed away at the age of 96 on 30 Nov'22.
- Jiang Zemin was a Chinese politician who served as general secretary of the Chinese Communist Party from 1989 to 2002.
- He also served as chairman of the Central Military Commission from 1989 to 2004, and as president of China from 1993 to 2003.
- He was appointed the president after the Tiananmen Square protests.

### Yakshagana artist Kumble Sundar Rao passed away at 88

- Well-known Yakshagana and Talamaddale artist, Kumble Sundar Rao passed away on 30 Nov 2022.
- He was an exponent of the Thenkuthittu style of Yakshagana and the MLA serving Surathkal (present Mangalore City North) constituency from 1994 to 1999.
- As an artist, he had served in Surathkal and Dharmasthala yakshagana mela.
- He had also served as president of Karnataka State Yakshagana Academy.

### Toyota Kirloskar vice chairman, Vikram Kirloskar passes away at 64

- Toyota Kirloskar Motor vice chairperson, Vikram S Kirloskar passed away on 30 Nov 2022.
- He played a key role in bringing Japan's Toyota Motor Corp to India in the late 1990s.
- He had a mechanical engineering degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, US.
- Toyota Kirloskar Motor is a joint venture between the Japanese auto major Toyota Motor Company and the Kirloskar Group.



## Person in News Current Affairs | December 2022

### PV Sindhu among top 25 highest-paid female athletes in Forbes' list

- India's badminton star PV Sindhu is the only Indian sportsperson to feature in the top 25 of Forbes' annual list of the world's highest-paid female athletes.
- She is ranked 12th on the list.
- For the third year in a row, Osaka topped Forbes' annual list of the world's highest-paid female athletes.
- She won the singles gold and doubles silver at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham in 2022.

### Antim Panghal nominated for Rising Star of the Year award

- Indian women's wrestler Antim Panghal has been nominated for United World Wrestling 2022 Rising Star of the Year award in Dec 2022.
- Japan's Nonoka Ozaki, USA's Amit Elor, Sweden's Emma Malmgren and Andreea Ana of Romania are the other in the five-woman nominees list.
- Antim Panghal created history in Aug 2022 by winning India's first-ever gold medal at the World U20 Wrestling Championships.

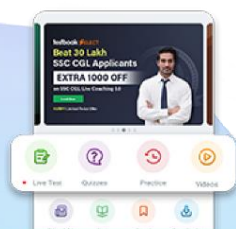
### Shah Rukh features on British magazines list of 50 greatest actors

- Shah Rukh Khan is the only Indian actor who has been included in an international list of 50 greatest actors of all time by British Magazine 'Empire' in Dec'22.
- His dialogue from the movie "Jab Tak Hai Jaan" — "Zindagi toh har roz jaan leti hai... Bomb toh sirf ek baar lega" (Everyday life kills us a little. A bomb will kill you only once) has been recognised as the "iconic line" of his career.

### Elon Musk to step down as Twitter CEO

- Billionaire Elon Musk will step down as chief executive of Twitter Inc once he finds a replacement, but will still run some key divisions of the social media platform.
- This is the first time Musk has mentioned stepping down as chief of the social media platform.
- Twitter, Inc. is an American social media company based in San Francisco, California.

### Neeraj Chopra becomes the most written-about athlete in 2022

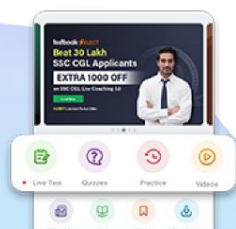




- According to the World Athletics, javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra of India was the most written about track and field athlete in 2022, displacing the Jamaican legend Usain Bolt from the top lists.
- He won the silver medal at the World Athletic Championships 2022 in Oregon, becoming only the 2nd Indian to win a worlds medal after Anju Bobby George's bronze in the women's long jump in 2003.

### WhatsApp Pay India chief Vinay Choletti resigns

- Vinay Choletti, head of WhatsApp's India payment business, has quit the firm within four months in the role.
- WhatsApp Pay allows users to send money only to their contacts after which it enables UPI ID.
- WhatsApp Pay users can enter the UPI ID and send money through QR code.
- WhatsApp users can also send money to people who are not in their contact list.



## Science and Technology Current Affairs | December 2022

### India to setup its first waste-to-hydrogen project in Pune

- Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) along with The Green Billions will use waste and convert it into useable green hydrogen.
- Waste will comprise of biodegradable, non-biodegradable and domestic hazardous waste.
- It would be segregated in one place using optical sensor technology.
- Refuse-Derived Fuel (RDF) from waste would be utilised to generate hydrogen using plasma gasification technology.

### Five generations of high-temperature stars revealed in Omega Centauri

- Omega Centauri is a globular cluster in the constellation of Centaurus that was first identified as a non-stellar object by Edmond Halley in 1677
- It is the largest-known globular cluster in the Milky Way Galaxy.
- Globular clusters are spherical aggregates of several thousand to millions of stars bound by gravity.

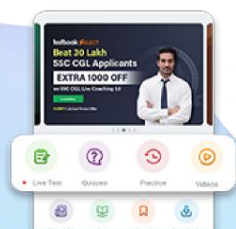
### Tufts University research clarifies how sepsis can lead to cell death

- Sepsis is a life-threatening condition arising from the body's overreactive response against an infection, leading it to injure its own tissues & organs.
- The 1st known reference to sepsis dates back to more than 2,700 years
- It is a derivative of a greek word "sepo," meaning "I rot".
- Sepsis accounted for 11 million deaths worldwide in 2017 & is the most expensive medical condition in the US.

### Researchers trying to develop drug to treat 'GNB1 Encephalopathy'

- Researchers in India, the US and Israel and currently trying to develop a drug to treat this rare genetic disease 'GNB1 Encephalopathy'.
- It is a brain disease caused due to mutations in the GNB1 gene.
- This genetic disorder affects individuals in the foetus stage.
- The earliest symptoms being delayed physical and mental development, intellectual disabilities, epilepsy and movement problems.

### Scientists freeze Great Barrier Reef coral



- Scientists working on Australia's Great Barrier Reef successfully tested a new method for freezing and storing coral larvae on 25 December 2022.
- Cryogenically frozen coral can be stored and later reintroduced into the wild but the process requires sophisticated equipment including lasers.
- A new lightweight "Cryomesh" could be manufactured more cheaply and better protect corals

### IIT Kanpur develops artificial heart to help acute cardiac patients

- Researchers at IIT Kanpur have developed an artificial heart, which will prove to be helpful for people suffering from cardiac problems.
- After success in the trial, transplantation can be done in humans in the next two years.
- Artificial heart is being developed to reduce the sufferings of the patients.
- India imports 80 percent of equipment and implants from abroad.

### Scientists fabricate rare earth-free magnets

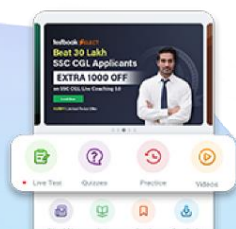
- Scientists have fabricated improved low cost heavy rare earth-free high Nd-Fe-B magnets, which are in high demand for Electric Vehicles and can make them more affordable.
- More than 90% of EVs use brushless DC (BLDC) motors made up of rare earth Neodymium Iron Boron (Nd-Fe-B) magnets.
- Nd-Fe-B magnets used in EVs operate at high temperatures of 150 – 200°C.

### NASA'S Mars rover Perseverance to begin dropping samples of rock

- NASA's Mars rover Perseverance will begin dropping samples of rock onto the surface of the Red Planet in Dec 2022.
- The materials have been packaged in titanium tubes.
- It is a major milestone in the quest to find out if there is life on Mars.
- Perseverance will place 10 cylinders on the ground at its exploration site in Jezero Crater.
- There will also be examples of Martian soil and air.

### India will launch its quadrivalent vaccine called Cervavac in 2023

- India will launch its quadrivalent vaccine called Cervavac in 2023 for the nationwide immunisation drive of girls aged 9-14 years.
- Developed by the Serum Institute of India (SII), Cervavac offers protection against four strains of HPV — 16, 18, 6, and 11.



- HPV (human papillomavirus) is a viral infection passed between people through skin-to-skin contact.

### US researchers announce historic nuclear fusion breakthrough

- US researchers announced a historic nuclear fusion breakthrough on December 13, 2022.
- For the first time in history, American scientists carried out a nuclear fusion reaction in California, USA, due to which pure energy (carbon-free energy) was produced just like the Sun.
- This breakthrough could bring unlimited clean energy and could help in the fight against climate change.

### ISRO introducing the L1 frequency in all its future satellites

- ISRO is introducing the L1 frequency in all its future satellites with an aim to promote the civilian use of NAVigation with the Indian Constellation (NavIC).
- L1 frequency is one of the most commonly used frequencies in the GPS.
- It will increase the use of the regional navigation system in wearable devices, security systems and personal trackers that use low-power, single-frequency chips.

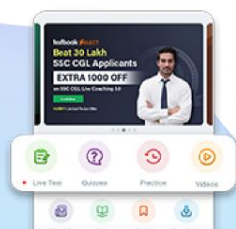
### Union Ministry, ISRO develop a project-monitoring mobile application

- The Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region (MoDoNER) has in collaboration the department of space has developed a project-monitoring mobile application.
- The project can be monitored in three modes viz mobile apps, satellite images and drone images.
- Till November 2022, 562 projects across North-Eastern Region (NER) have been geo-tagged through satellite images and mobile app.

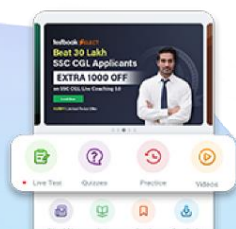
### Japan's first-ever lunar mission launched

- Japanese space startup ispace Inc has launched its own private lander M1 to the Moon under its HAKUTO-R mission, from the SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket.
- HAKUTO-R refers to the white rabbit.
- Its lunar lander contains two rovers who were expected to touch down on the visible side of the moon in April 2023.
- If the rover Rashid lands successfully, it will be the Arab world's first Moon mission.

### IIT Madras researchers develop 'Sindhuja' Ocean Wave Energy Converter



- Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) Researchers have developed an 'Ocean Wave Energy Converter' that can generate electricity from sea waves.
- The trials of this device were successfully completed in December 2022.
- The product has been named 'Sindhujal-I,' which means 'generated from the ocean.'
- It targets generating 1MW of power from ocean waves in the next 3 years.





## Sports Current Affairs | December 2022

### World Rapid Chess Championships: Magnus Carlsen & Tan Zhongyi win gold

- World Rapid Chess Championships ended in Almaty in December 2022.
- Magnus Carlsen won his fourth rapid crown.
- He had already triumphed in 2014, 2015 and 2019.
- The second place in the World Rapid went to Vincent Keymer.
- In the Women's tournament, Tan Zhongyi of China won gold after defeating local player Dinara Saduakassova in the tiebreaker.

### 2022 FIDE World Blitz Championship: Carlsen & Bibisara wins gold

- Magnus Carlsen and Bibisara Assaubayeva won the World Blitz Championships in Almaty, in December 2022.
- Carlsen thus grabbed the triple crown, as he is currently the classical, rapid and blitz world champion.
- The 18-year-old Assaubayeva, on her part, defended the title she had won in 2021.
- International Chess Federation (FIDE) Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland
- President: Arkady Dvorkovich

### Koneru Humpy becomes 1st Indian to win 2 medals at Blitz Championship

- Koneru Humpy has become the first Indian in history to win two medals at the World Blitz Chess Championships.
- She scored 12.5/17 to take home the Silver medal.
- She missed the gold medal by just half a point.
- She is best known for winning the FIDE Women's rapid chess championship in 2019.
- In 2002, she became the youngest woman ever to achieve the title of Grandmaster at the age of 15 years.

### Cristiano Ronaldo joins Saudi Club Al Nassr

- Cristiano Ronaldo has signed a two-and-a-half-year contract with Saudi Arabian club Al Nassr.
- Recently, he left Manchester United Club.
- Prior to Manchester United, he was with Real Madrid Club.



- In FIFA 2022 played in Qatar, he scored 1 goal and in total he has scored 15 goals in world cups.
- His home country is Portugal.

### **Suryakumar, Mandhana nominated for ICC T20 Cricketer of the Year award**

- Indian cricketers Suryakumar Yadav and Smriti Mandhana, were on 29 December 2022, nominated for the men's and women's T20 Cricketer of the Year awards 2022.
- The other nominees include Sikandar Raza of Zimbabwe, Sam Curran of England and Pakistan's wicketkeeper-batsman Mohammad Rizwan have been nominated for the ICC men's T-20 cricketer of the year 2022.
- Chairman of ICC: Greg Barclay

### **Australia's Men Test Player Of The Year Award named after Shane Warne**

- Australia's men's Test Player of the Year award will be renamed in Shane Warne's honour.
- Tributes were paid to the late spin-king at Boxing Day Test against South Africa.
- Warne, considered second in stature only to Donald Bradman in sports-mad Australia, died unexpectedly aged 52 in March 2022.
- The Shane Warne Men's Test Player of the Year award will be presented annually.

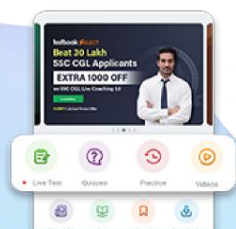
### **Arshdeep, and Yastika among nominees for ICC emerging player award**

- Indian Arshdeep Singh has been included in the men's and Yastika Bhatia and Renuka Singh in the women's section of the International Cricket Council's emerging player of the year 2022 award nominee list.
- The nominee list was announced by the ICC on 28 December 2022.
- Other players include fast bowler Marco Jansen, Afghanistan's batsman Ibrahim Zardan and New Zealand's batsman Finn Allen.

### **Government recognises e-sports as part of multisports events**

- The Government has officially recognised e-sports in the country.
- E-Sports will now be a part of the "multisports event" category in India under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- E-Sports, short for electronic sports, is a form of competition using video games.
- The decision will boost the growth of the country's E-Sports industry.

### **South African cricketer Farhaan Behardien announces retirement**



- South Africa all-rounder Farhaan Behardien has announced his retirement from cricket on 27 Dec'22.
- He represented South Africa in four World Cups.
- Behardien played 59 ODIs for the Proteas, in which he scored 1074 runs at an average of 30.69.
- He also played 38 T20Is and scored 518 runs.
- In the ODIs that he has played, the 39-year-old also picked up 14 wickets and in the T20Is he got three.

### Cyclist Swasti Singh receives 30th Ekalabya Puraskar

- The 'Ekalabya Puraskar' for the year 2022 was presented to cyclist Swasti Singh on 24 December 2022.
- This award is given every year to encourage young sporting talents.
- Football player Pyari Xaxa and Hockey player Shilanda Lakra were also honored at the event.
- Billiards and snooker world champion Pankaj Advani was the chief guest while Pranati Mishra was the guest of honor at the event.

### Indian archers tops the Archery Asia Cup 2022 stage 3 event table

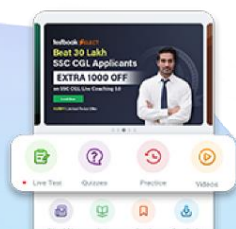
- Indian archers topped the Archery Asia Cup 2022 stage 3 held in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates from 20 to 25 December 2022.
- India won 10 medals; five golds, three silvers and two bronze.
- Seven of India's 10 medals at the Archery Asia Cup 2022 stage 3 were won by compound archers.
- Asian Archery Championships began in 1980 and it was first hosted in India.

### Nikhat Zareen, Lovlina Borgohain win gold at National Boxing event

- World Champion Nikhat Zarin and the Tokyo Olympics bronze medalist Lovlina Borgohain won gold medals in their respective weight categories at the 6th Elite National Women's Boxing Championships 2022 in Bhopal on 26 December 2022.
- The Railways team topped the medals tally with 10 medals while Madhya Pradesh and Haryana came second and third respectively.

### Arunachal's Geto Sora wins Junior International Badminton Championship

- Arunachal Pradesh's 7-year-old Geto Sora won the Top Arena Junior International Badminton Championship title on 23 December 2022.



- The Top Arena Junior International Badminton Championship was held in Kuala Lumpur from 19-23 December 2022.
- In November 2022, the 7-year-old Sora won the U-9 boys singles titles in the BTY-Yonex-Singha Championship, held in Bangkok, Thailand.

### Sam Curran becomes most expensive player in IPL history

- Cricketer Sam Curran on 23 December 2022 became the costliest cricketer ever to be bought by any franchise of the Indian Premier League (IPL).
- He was bought by Punjab Kings during the IPL auction for ₹18.5 crores.
- The IPL auctions for the 2023 season are being held in Kerala.
- He broke cricketer Ishan Kishan's record who was picked last season for ₹15.25 crore by Mumbai Indians.

### Viacom18 awarded 2024 Paris Olympics broadcasting right in South Asia

- Viacom18 network has bagged the broadcasting rights of the 2024 Paris Olympics and the 2024 Youth Olympics for the Indian subcontinent in December 2022.
- This includes the markets of India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
- It has been distributed to support the staging of the Olympic Games, promote the worldwide development of sport and the Olympic movement.

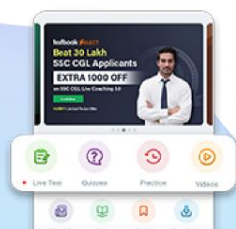
### Brazil tops FIFA World Ranking

- Brazil maintained their top spot in the FIFA World Ranking in December 2022 despite Argentina winning their first FIFA World Cup title since 1986 in Qatar 2022.
- Brazil have held the number one position since February 2022, when they dethroned Belgium.
- Argentina and France have moved up one spot to second and third place, respectively.

### New Delhi to host the 36th Asian Wrestling Championships 2023

- The United World Wrestling (UWW) announced on 20 December 2022 that the 36th Asian Wrestling Championships 2023 will be held in New Delhi, from 28 March to 2 April 2023.
- New Delhi will be hosting the event for the 7th time.
- It will offer ranking points to the wrestlers which will determine their seedings for the World Championships to be held in Belgrade, Serbia from 16 to 24 Sept 2023.

### Karim Benzema announces retirement from international football



- French footballer Karim Benzema announced his retirement from International football on 20 December 2022.
- Benzema ends his time with France with 37 goals in 97 appearances.
- He made his debut for France against Austria in March 2007, he scored while playing as a substitute.
- He was included in the France team for Euro 2020, and he ended up being the third-highest scorer with four goals.

## Rehan Ahmed becomes youngest to claim 5 wicket on Test Cricket debut

- England's leg-spinner Rehan Ahmed has become the youngest men's Test cricketer to take a five-wicket haul on debut during the ongoing third match against Pakistan on 19 December 2022.
- He made his Test debut at 18 years and 126 days during Pakistan and England match.
- He claimed three wickets in six overs on his way to 5-48 in the second innings against Pakistan.

## FIFA picked Morocco to host Club World Cup in February 2023

- FIFA has announced that Morocco will host the next football Club World Cup.
- The tournament will take place from 1-11 Feb 2023.
- The most recent edition of the tournament was held in the UAE in February 2022 and was won by the English football club, Chelsea.
- Morocco has hosted the Club World Cup in 2013 and 2014.
- The Real Madrid football club of Spain has won the cup a maximum of 4 times.

## Khelo India Women's Track Cycling tournament scheduled

- For the 1st time, the Khelo India Women's tournament will feature Track Cycling.
- The tournament, scheduled to take place across 4 Zones in Dec 2022, has been sanctioned for a total Rs 1.15 crore by the Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- SAI NSNIS Patiala will play host to the first phase for the North Zone Amritsar leg.

## Chahat Arora sets national record in women's 50m breaststroke

- In Swimming, Indian swimmer Chahat Arora set a new national record in the women's 50m breaststroke at the FINA World Swimming Championships 2022 in Australia, on 17 Dec'22.



- She clocked 32.91 seconds to top at the 25-metre short course pool and bettered her own previous record of 32.94 seconds set at the National Aquatic Championships 2022 in September 2022.

### Argentina beat France to win FIFA World Cup 2022

- Argentina defeated France 4-2 on penalties to win their third World Cup, after 36 years, on 19 December 2022.
- Golden Ball was awarded to Lionel Messi.
- He also got this award in 2014.
- With eight goals, Kylian Mbappe was awarded the Golden boot.
- Enzo Fernandez was awarded the Young Player of the Tournament award.
- While the goalkeeper of the tournament was given to Emiliano Martinez.

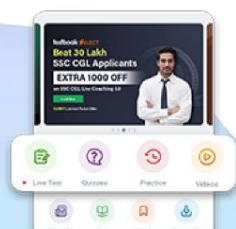
### India wins blind T20 cricket world cup for third consecutive times

- India won the 3rd T20 World Cup for Blind, played at the M.Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru, Karnataka on 17 Dec 2022.
- All the three T20 World Cup for Blind have been hosted by India.
- India defeated Bangladesh by 120 runs in the final.
- Governor of Karnataka Thawar Chand Gehlot presented the winners and runners up trophies.
- The 4th T20 World Cup for Blind will be held in Pakistan in 2023.

### Indian women's hockey team wins FIH Nations Cup

- The Indian women Hockey team won the inaugural FIH Nations Cup at Valencia, Spain on 17 December 2022.
- With this win, the Indian team has been promoted to the 2023-24 FIH Hockey Women's Pro League.
- The winning goal was scored by Gurjit Kaur of India.
- India finished third in the 2021-22 FIH Pro League.
- FIH Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland
- FIH President: Mohammad Tayyab Ikram

### Rafael Nadal and Iga Swiatek crowned ITF World Champions 2022



- Rafael Nadal and Iga Swiatek were crowned the ITF world champion 2022 in their respective categories on 16 December 2022.
- Rafael Nadal was crowned the ITF world champion for the fifth time in his career.
- In the men's doubles category, Rajeev Ram and Joe Salisbury won the award while Barbora Krejčíková and Katerina Siniakova took the women's doubles honour for the third time.

### Union Sports Minister unveils Hockey World Cup trophy in New Delhi

- Union Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports Anurag Thakur unveiled Hockey World Cup trophy in New Delhi on 16 December 2022.
- The event was also attended by 1975 Hockey World Cup winners.
- The FIH Men's World Cup 2023 Bhubaneswar - Rourkela will begin on 13th January 2023.
- The nationwide Trophy Tour was launched in Bhubaneswar on 5th December by Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik.

### Chahat Arora sets national record in women's 100-metre breaststroke

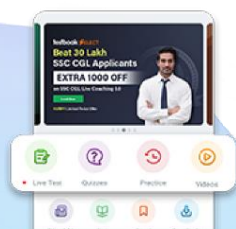
- Indian swimmer Chahat Arora set a national record in the women's 100-metre breaststroke at the FINA World Swimming Championships 2022 in Melbourne, Australia on 14 Dec 2022.
- Chahat Arora completed the 100-metre breaststroke race in 1 min, 13.13 seconds.
- Lithuania's Ruta Meilūtytė, topped the overall heats.
- Lara Van Niekerk of South Africa came second while Lilly King of the USA came third.

### Axelsen and Yamaguchi wins badminton World Tour Finals

- Viktor Axelsen won the men's singles title after defeating Indonesia's Anthony Ginting at the season-ending World Tour Finals in Bangkok on 11 Dec'22.
- Japan's Akane Yamaguchi defeated Taiwan's Tai Tzu Ying to win the women's singles title. Yamaguchi is the current world champion.
- Chinese Duo Liu Yuchen And Ou Xuanyi Defeated Indonesia's Mohammad Ahsan And Hendra Setiawan In The Men's Doubles

### Messi becomes highest goalscorer for Argentina in FIFA W-Cup history

- Lionel Messi broke Gabriel Batistuta's record to become the highest goalscorer for Argentina in the history of the FIFA World Cup.
- He achieved this during the Argentina vs Croatia match, in which he equalled Hungary's Sandor Kocsis and Germany's Jurgen Klinsmann with 11 goals.



- This match was also his 25th World Cup match, the most for any Argentinian player alongside Lothar Matthaus.

### S. Sridhar breaks national record at FINA World Swimming Championship

- Indian swimmer Siva Sridhar broke the national record in the men's 200m individual medley heats at the Short Course World Championships in Melbourne on 13 Dec 2022.
- Siva clocked 1:59.80s and cut down almost three seconds from the previous best 2:02.42 - also owned by him.
- In June 2022, he won the bronze medal at Singapore National Swimming Championships in the 200m individual medley.

### Manu Bhaker bags gold medal in National Shooting Championship

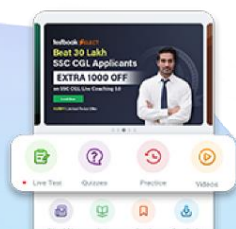
- Manu Bhaker bagged a gold medal in the 10-metre pistol junior women's event at the National Shooting Championship in Bhopal.
- Representing Haryana at the 65th edition of the National Shooting Championship, Manu Bhaker beat Telangana's, Esha Singh.
- Olympic silver medallist Vijay Kumar from Himachal Pradesh bagged the national title in the men's 25m centre fire pistol.

### Indian U-18 Girls team wins silver at Asia Rugby 7's Championship

- The Under-18 girls team won the silver medal at the U18 Asia Rugby Sevens held at Kathmandu, Nepal on 11 Dec'22.
- The tournament was held on the 10th and the 11th of December with five countries participating in the girls' pool and eight countries participating in the boys' pool.
- The U-18 boys team finished at 4th in the event.
- The bronze medal match was won by Malaysia with a score of 36-5.

### Hyderabad Strikers crowned as champions of Tennis Premier League 2022

- Hyderabad Strikers crowned as champions of Tennis Premier League 2022 on 12 Dec'22.
- The final of the 4th TPL was held in Pune, Maharashtra.
- The final score of the Hyderabad Strikers was 41-32 and was crowned champions of the event for the 2nd year in a row.
- Hyderabad's pair S. Balaji and Nikki Poonacha defeated Mumbai's R. Ramanathan and J. Nedunnchezhiyan 14-6 to win the title.



## J Buttler, Sidra Ameen Win ICC Player Of The Month Awards For November

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) on 12 December announced the winners of the ICC Player of the Month awards for November 2022.
- England's T20 captain Jos Buttler was named the ICC Player of the Month for Nov 2022.
- Pakistan's Sidra Amin became Pakistan's second consecutive winner of the Women's Player of the Month award after a stellar performance in the ODI series win against Ireland.

## HS Prannoy beats Viktor Axelsen in BWF World Tour finals

- In badminton, India's HS Prannoy outclassed Olympic and world champion Viktor Axelsen 14-21, 21-17, 21-18 in the BWF World Tour in Bangkok in December 2022.
- It is Prannoy's second win in seven meetings.
- Prannoy was the lone Indian player competing at the 2022 season-ending BWF World Tour Finals - where only the top 8 players and pairs of the year take part.

## Indian sailor Anandi wins gold medal at 34th King's Cup Regatta 2022

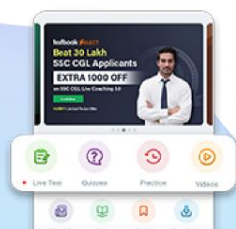
- Indian Sailor Anandi Nandan Chandavarkar won Gold at 34th King's Cup Regatta 2022 held in Phuket, Thailand on 11 Dec 2022.
- She participated in the French Open Skiff National event and finished 5th in the U-15 category.
- She also participated in Japanese Open Skiff Nationals 2022.
- The King's Cup Regatta started in 1987 and is a one-week event held annually in Phuket, Thailand.

## Ishan Kishan smashes fastest double hundred in ODI cricket history

- Opener Ishan Kishan smashed the fastest double hundred in ODI history.
- He took 126 deliveries to smash a double hundred in the third ODI against Bangladesh.
- The record was earlier held by Chris Gayle, who took 138 deliveries for his double hundred against Zimbabwe in 2015.
- Ishan is the 7<sup>th</sup> batter to slam an ODI double ton.

## Sukant Kadam wins gold medal at Peru Para Badminton International

- Sukant Kadam won a gold medal at the Peru Para-Badminton International Championship in Dec'22.
- India won 14 medals (6 gold, 1 silver, and 7 bronze).
- He defeated Chee Hiong Ang in straight sets with a score line of 21-14 and 21-15.



- Indian men's doubles pair Nehal and Breno Johann and the women's doubles duo of Parul Parmar and Vaishali Nilesh Patel won gold in their respective categories.

### Deepika Padukone to unveil the FIFA World Cup trophy during the finals

- Actor Deepika Padukone will unveil the FIFA World Cup 2022 trophy in Qatar during the final match of FIFA World Cup on 18 Dec 2022.
- She will be the first Bollywood actor to unveil FIFA World Cup trophy.
- The final match will be played at the Lusail Iconic Stadium in Qatar on 18 Dec.
- The tournament is being held from Nov 20 to Dec 18.
- She was also awarded the TIME100 Impact Award in 2022.

### Mirabai Chanu clinches silver at Weightlifting World Championship

- Mirabai Chanu won silver at the 2022 World Weightlifting Championships in Colombia on 7 Dec 2022.
- She beat the Tokyo 2020 champion Hou Zhihua of China.
- She lifted a combined weight of 200 kg compared to Zhihua's total of 198 kg.
- Meanwhile, China's Jiang Huihua took home the gold medal with a combined weight of 206 kg.

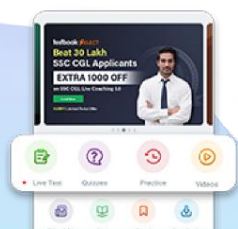
### Anish Thoppani clinches silver medal in U-15 category

- Indian shuttler Anish Thoppani clinched a silver medal in the under-15 category at the Badminton Asia Junior Championships in Nonthaburi, Thailand on 4 December 2022.
- Anish lost the men's singles final against Chinese Taipei's Chung-Hsiang Yih 8-21, 24-22, 19-21 to settle for silver.
- India's under-17 men's duo Arsh Mohammad and Sanskar Sraswat also won a silver medal.

### Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh clinch Mixed Team Pistol title

- In shooting, Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh won the 10 metre air pistol mixed team title at the 65th National Shooting Championship Competitions in Bhopal on December 4, 2022.
- They defeated Karnataka's Divya TS and Imroz 16-4 in the gold medal encounter.
- Punjab and ONGC shared the bronze medals.
- In the junior mixed team pistol, the gold was won by Uttar Pradesh's Anjali and Sagar.

### Third T20 World Cup Cricket Tournament for Blind begins





- The third T20 World Cup Cricket Tournament for the Blind was inaugurated at Tau Devi Lal Indoor Stadium in Gurugram on December 5, 2022.
- The participating nations are Australia, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and the host, India.
- It is being organised to mark the World Disability Day celebrations universally.
- Yuvraj Singh is the brand ambassador of the tournament.

### Rohit Sharma becomes sixth-highest run scorer for India in ODIs

- Indian cricketer Rohit Sharma surpassed former batter M. Azharuddin to become the sixth-highest run-getter for India in ODI cricket.
- He accomplished this record during India's first ODI against Bangladesh at Dhaka on 4 Dec'22.
- Top run-scorers in ODI cricket for India are: Sachin Tendulkar (18,426), Virat Kohli (12,353), Saurav Ganguly (11,221), Rahul Dravid (10,768) and MS Dhoni (10,599).

### Unnati wins India's first-ever medal in under-17 badminton category

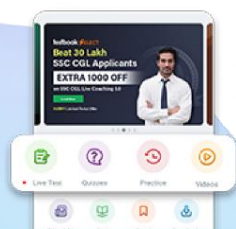
- Indian badminton player, Unnati Hooda became the first-ever Indian under-17 shuttler to clinch a medal at the Asian Junior Badminton Championships on 4 December 2022.
- She lost to Sarunrak Vitidsarn of Thailand in the gold medal match in the women's singles category and got a silver medal.
- The championship is being held in Nonthaburi, Thailand.

### Sarabjot Singh wins double gold at 65th National Shooting Championship

- Haryana's Sarabjot Singh won double gold at the 65th National Shooting Championship on 2 December 2022.
- Sarabjot defeated Gaurav Rana of the Air Force 16-4 in the gold medal match for the individual crown and also partnered with Sumit Raman and Anmol Jain to pick up the team gold in the event.
- The championship is being held at the MP Shooting Academy range in Bhopal

### Nathan Lyon becomes 9th highest wicket-taker in Test cricket

- Australian spinner Nathan Lyon surpassed South Africa's Dale Steyn to become the 9th-highest wicket-taker in Test cricket on 3 Dec'22.
- He achieved this record on Day 3 of the first Test match against West Indies.
- Lyon now has 440 wickets, taking him past Steyn's tally of 439 Test wickets.



- Muttiah Muralitharan holds the record for most wickets in Test cricket with 800 wickets in 133 matches.

## Shooter Rudranksh Patil wins gold at ISSF President's Cup 2022

- Indian shooter Rudrankksh Patil won the gold at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) President's Cup held in Cairo, Egypt on 3 Dec 2022.
- He defeated Italy's Danilo Sollazzo in the 10 m rifle play-off by 16-8.
- In Oct 2022, He bagged the country's first quota for the 2024 Paris Olympics after clinching a gold in men's 10 m air rifle in ISSF Rifle/Pistol World Championships 2022.

## Saurashtra cricket team wins Vijay Hazare Trophy 2022

- Saurashtra beat Maharashtra by 5 wickets in the final to win the Vijay Hazare Trophy at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- The team won its first Ranji Trophy title in 2019-2020.
- The Player of the match in the final was given to Sheldon Jackson and the Player of the tournament was awarded to Ruturaj Gaikwad.
- The Vijay Hazare Trophy is also known as the Ranji One-Day Trophy.

### 3rd T20 World Cup for the Blind to be held from December 5 in India

- The third T20 World Cup Cricket Tournament for the Blind will be held from December 5 to 17, 2022 in India.
- The participating nations for World Cup 2022 are Australia, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and India.
- The tournament is being organized to mark the World Disability Day celebrations universally.
- Cricketer Yuvraj Singh is the brand ambassador of the tournament

## Stephanie Frappart becomes 1st female referee at men's World Cup game

- Stephanie Frappart of France will be the first woman to referee a men's World Cup match on 2 December 2022.
- She will officiate the match to be played between Germany and Costa Rica in Group E on 2 December 2022.
- France's Frappart is one of three women referees among the 36 selected for the tournament in Qatar, alongside Rwandan official Salima Mukansanga and Japan's Yoshimi Yamashita.

## Summits and Conferences Current Affairs | December 2022

### CLAWS held 2 day Seminar on "Civil Military Integration"

- Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS), an independent think tank, conducted a two-day Seminar on the theme of "Civil Military Integration: The Way Forward", at New Delhi.
- General Anil Chauhan, CDS and General Manoj Pandey, COAS addressed the event.
- It is being held to discuss the role of the military and bureaucracy in adopting a whole nation approach to deal with security challenges.

### Latvia host Joint Expeditionary Force (JEF) summit 2022 at Riga

- Latvia hosted the 3rd summit meeting of the Joint Expeditionary Force (JEF) on 19 December 2022 in Riga, Latvia.
- The summit meeting has been convened on the Initiative of the Prime Minister of Latvia Krisjanis Karins, with the support of the UK.
- The JEF was founded in 2015.
- It comprises Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the UK.

### 7th India Water Impact summit to begin on December 15 in New Delhi

- The seventh edition of the India Water Impact summit will commence on December 15, 2022.
- Organized by NITI Aayog, the event will showcase new technological innovations, research, policy frameworks, and investment models from around the world and from within India.
- It will focus on select aspects of "Mapping and Convergence of 5P's (People, Policies, Plans, Programmes, and Projects)".

### Rajeev Chandrasekhar attends the India Global Forum at Dubai

- Union Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology, Rajeev Chandrasekhar attended the India Global Forum in Dubai on 13-15 Dec'22.
- This agenda-setting forum selects platforms that international corporate and policymakers can leverage to interact with stakeholders in their sectors
- The theme of the forum is "Globalisation of Indian Tech & Innovation Talent."

### India International Science Festival(IISF) to be held in Bhopal

- IISF-2022 will be held in Bhopal in Jan 2023.



- IISF is the initiative of the Ministry of Science & Technology and the Ministry of Earth Science in association with Vijnana Bharati.
- The IISF 2022 is the eighth edition since its inception in 2015.
- The 1st and 2nd IISF were held in New Delhi, the third in Chennai, 4th in Lucknow, 5th in Kolkata, 6th through virtual mode and 7th one in Goa.

### 17th Asia Pacific Regional Meeting of the ILO was held in Singapore

- The 17th Asia Pacific Regional Meeting (APRM) of the International Labour Organization (ILO) was held in Singapore in December 2022.
- It brings together representatives of governments, employers' and workers' organizations from Asia, the Pacific and the Arab states.
- The meeting concluded with the launch of the 'Singapore Statement'.

### National Health Ministers' Conclave held in Varanasi

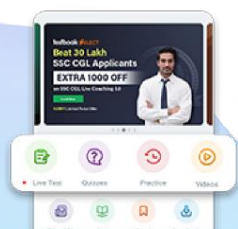
- 2-day National Health Ministers' Conclave on Universal Health Coverage Day 2022 concluded in Varanasi in December 2022.
- Uttar Pradesh governor Anandiben Patel inaugurated the conclave.
- Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya launched operational guidelines for AB-HWCs and Tele-MANAS along with training modules for CHOs and SASHAKT portal at the inaugural ceremony.

### France to host Intl conference on "Standing with the Ukrainian People"

- France will host an International conference "Standing with the Ukrainian People" in Paris.
- It will be held with the aim to coordinate international support for civilian resilience in Ukraine and address the people's urgent humanitarian needs.
- Russian forces attacked Ukraine on 24 Feb'22.
- This event will gather representatives from 47 countries as well as 22 international organizations.

### Varanasi To Host G20 Development Ministers' Meet

- Union Govt has announced that Varanasi will host the G20 development ministers' meeting.
- The G-20 or Group of 20 is an intergovernmental forum of the world's major economies.
- India assumed the Presidency of the G-20 on December 1.
- The G-20 represents more than 80% of the world's gross domestic products.
- The G-20 Sherpa meeting was held at Udaipur in Rajasthan from December 5 to 7.



## COP-15 U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity commenced in Canada

- The UN Convention on Biological Diversity also called as Conference of Parties (COP-15) is being held in Montreal, Canada on 7-19 Dec'22.
- The conference was originally scheduled to be held in China in Oct but was shifted to Canada due to covid situation in China.
- This is the 2nd part of the COP15, The 1st part was hosted by China.
- However, the host of the COP-15 in Montreal is still China.

## Gajendra Singh chairs 10th meeting of empowered task force of NMCG

- Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat chaired the 10th meeting of the Empowered Task Force of the National Mission for Clean Ganga on 9 Dec 2022.
- During the meeting, It was decided that 75 'Sahakar Ganga Grams' will be developed.
- For the development of tourism circuits along Ganga, exhibitions and fairs across 75 towns along Ganga are being planned as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.

## India to organize 12th World Hindi conference in Fiji in February 2023

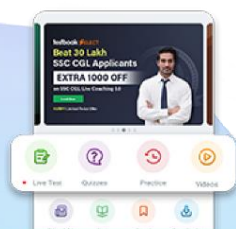
- The 12th World Hindi Conference is being organized by the Ministry of External Affairs in collaboration with the Government of Fiji from 15-17 February 2023 in Fiji.
- The theme of the Conference is "Hindi: From Traditional Knowledge to Artificial Intelligence"
- According to the UN report of 2020, Fiji had a population of more than 896,000 and out of which over 30% is of Indian-origin.

## India, Bangladesh hold 18th JWG meeting on Border Security

- The 18th Meeting of the Joint Working Group (JWG) on Security and Border Management between India and Bangladesh was held on December 5-6, 2022.
- The Indian delegation was led by Piyush Goyal and the Bangladesh Government delegation was led by A.K. Mukhlesur Rahman.
- Bilateral issues such as border fencing and illegal crossing, combating terrorism, smuggling, etc were discussed in the meeting.

## Technotex 2023 to be held in Mumbai from 22nd to 24th February, 2023

- India's premier show on Technical Textiles - 'Technotex 2023' will be held in Mumbai from 22nd to 24th February 2023.
- It is the largest event in the technical textile industry in India.





- It is focused on providing its attendees access and networking opportunities to meet top CEOs, manufacturers, industry peers, purchase managers, and suppliers from India and around the globe.

### Dr Jitendra Singh to inaugurate a conference on women's leadership

- Union Minister of State Science & Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh will inaugurate a conference on "Women Leading Change in Health and Science in India" in New Delhi on 06 Dec 2022.
- It is being organized by Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) in collaboration with WomenLift Health.
- The conference will highlight the importance of women's leadership in health and science.

### 5th European Union-India Competition Week inaugurates on 5 Dec 2022

- The European Union-India Competition Week, the 5th edition, was inaugurated in New Delhi on 5 December 2022.
- The Competition Week is scheduled to be held during 5-7 December 2022.
- This technical cooperation program has provided a platform for dialogue and exchange of good practices between competition authority officials and experts from the EU and India.
- CCI Headquarters: New Delhi

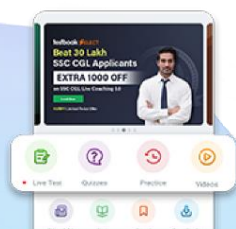
### Union Agri Minister inaugurates National Conference on Soil Health

- Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated Conference on Soil Health Management for Sustainable Farming on 5 Dec'22.
- In two phases, more than 22 crore Soil Health Cards have been distributed to farmers across the country.
- So far, 499 permanent Soil Testing Laboratories and 2395 Village-level Soil Testing Laboratories have been established in the Country.

### Conference on Women Leading Change in Health & Science to be held

- Science and Technology Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh will inaugurate a conference on 'Women Leading Change in Health and Science in India', on December 6, 2022 in New Delhi.
- Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Dr. Bharti Pravin Pawar will address the conference.
- The conference is being organized by the Department of Biotechnology.

### Piyush Goyal to attend Millets-Smart Nutritive Food summit in Delhi



- Piyush Goyal was the Chief Guest at the 'Millets-Smart Nutritive Food' Conclave held in New Delhi on 05 Dec 2022
- The conclave is being organized by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry's apex agricultural export promotion body, APEDA with the objective of promoting the export of millets.
- UN adopted a resolution, sponsored by India, declaring 2023 as the International Year of Millets.

### Dr Jitendra Singh to lead Indian delegation at Abu Dhabi Space Debate

- Union Minister Jitendra Singh will lead the official Indian delegation to the United Arab Emirates at the "Abu Dhabi Space Debate" on 5 December 2022.
- He will also address the opening ceremony of the event along with Israeli president Isaac Herzog.
- In July 2020, UAE become the first Arab country and the sixth in the world to send a mission to Mars which entered into Mars orbit in Feb 2021.

### India assumes the Presidency of UN Security Council for December 2022

- India has assumed the Presidency of the United Nation Security Council (UNSC) for the month of December 2022.
- India will be the President of the UNSC for one month as the 2 year term of India as a non-permanent member of the UNSC ends on 31 December 2022.
- India became the non -permanent member of the UNSC on 1 January 2021.
- India has become the President of the UNSC for the second time.

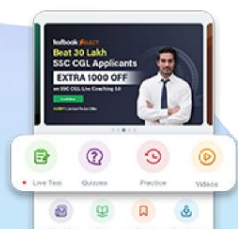
### Def Secretary inaugurates the 1st Coastal Security summit in Chennai

- Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane inaugurated the first Coastal Security Conference organized by the Indian Coast Guard in Chennai on 1 Dec'22.
- The conference is being attended by India, Maldives, Sri Lanka, and Mauritius.
- Theme: "Collaborative Efforts for Coastal Security."
- The CSC started as a trilateral maritime cooperation mechanism between India, Maldives, and Sri Lanka in 2011.

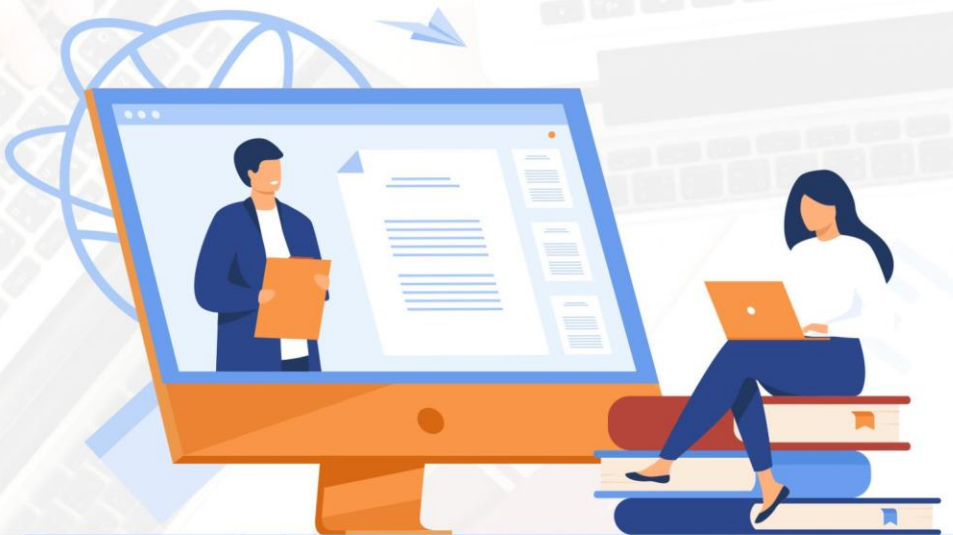
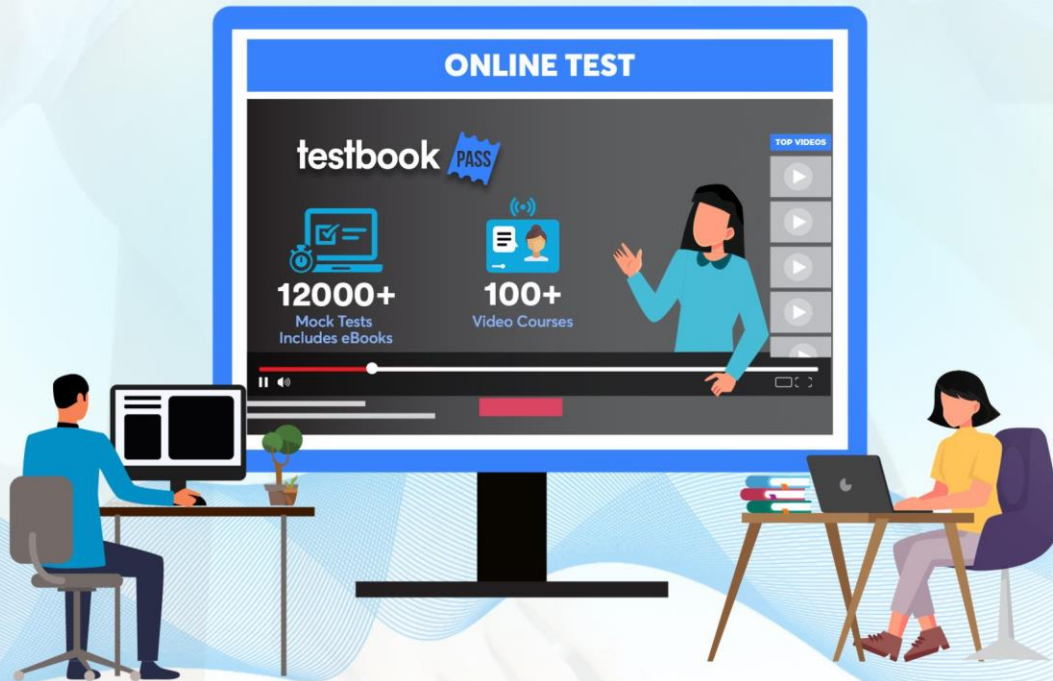
### NADA India to host Inclusion Conclave for athletes with disabilities

- National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) to host Inclusion Conclave for athletes with disabilities on 02 December 2022.

- This is being held to sharpen the focus on anti-doping education and processes for athletes with disabilities.
- NADA is India's national organization responsible for promoting, coordinating, and monitoring the doping control program in sports in all its forms.



# अब घर बैठे कीजिये सरकारी नौकरी की तैयारी, वो भी आधी कीमत में।



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