



pravahini

Monthly Compendium

SUCCESS MANTRA (GTB Nagar)

PREFACE

It gives us great pleasure to release the monthly edition of the PRAVAHINI - Monthly e-Compendium & Weekly e-Periodicals of Current Affairs. The magazine's members have shown considerable cooperation as well as devotion. We at successmantra.in work tirelessly to create this magazine and bring it to you with a great sense of gratitude.

The PRAVAHINI May-2022 eBook covers the current events that happened in the month of May. Current Affairs is a crucial component of any competitive exams including CLAT, AILET, DU-LLB, HM, CAT, IAS, PCS, SSC, Banking, MBA and various other competitive examinations.

Current Affairs play the bigger role in many competitive and government exams. It holds the power of making or breaking your chance of success. Therefore, the candidates should cover the Current Affairs thoroughly and smartly.

The PRAVAHINI May-2022 eBook is divided into different sections keeping in mind the need of various exams. The sections covered namely International, National, Economy, Ecology and Environment, Science & Technology, Legal Affairs, Sports, States News Makers and few others.

We would also be pleased to receive any suggestion that could assist us with the upcoming editions.

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B.S. Shanti



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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

WHAT IS ARTICLE 142 OF INDIAN CONSTITUTION?



Recently, the Supreme Court has invoked its extraordinary powers to do complete justice under **Article 142 of the Constitution** and ordered the release of **A.G. Perarivalan** in former Prime Minister **Rajiv Gandhi** assassination case.

The court protected federalism by holding that States had the power to aid and advice the Governor in case of pleas of pardon under Article 161 made by convicts in murder cases.

Article 161 provides that the Governor of a State shall have the power to grant pardons, reprieves, respites or remissions of punishment or to suspend, remit or commute the sentence of any person convicted of any offence against any law relating to a matter to which the executive power of the State extends.

The Supreme Court used Article 142 of the Constitution that grants it extraordinary powers to do complete justice, to release Perarivalan.

The court dismissed the Centre's argument that the President exclusively, and not the Governor, had the power to grant pardon in a case under Section 302 (murder) of the Indian Penal Code, saying **this contention would render Article 161 a "dead-letter" and create an extraordinary situation whereby pardons granted by Governors in murder cases for the past 70 years would be rendered invalid.**

What is Article 142?

Article 142 provides discretionary power to the Supreme Court as it states that the Supreme Court in the exercise of its jurisdiction may pass such decree or make such order as is necessary for doing complete justice in any cause or matter pending before it.

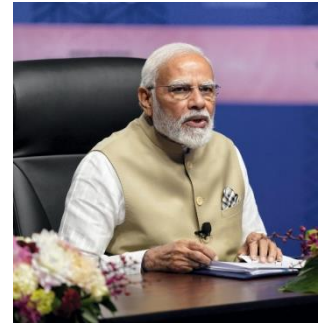
INTER-STATE COUNCIL HAS BEEN RECONSTITUTED

Recently, the **Inter-State Council (ISC)** has been reconstituted with the **Prime Minister as Chairman** and Chief Ministers of all States and six Union Ministers as members.

Ten union ministers will be the permanent invitees to the Inter-State Council. The government has also

reconstituted the standing committee of the Inter-State Council with Union Home as Chairman.

The Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh are also members of the standing committee of the Inter-State Council.



What is the Inter-State Council?

As part of the process of reviewing the working of the existing arrangements between the Union and the States, **the Government constituted a commission in 1988 under the Chairmanship of Justice R.S. Sarkaria.**

One of the important recommendations of Sarkaria Commission was for establishing a permanent Inter-State Council as an independent national forum for consultation with a mandate well defined in accordance with **Article 263 of the Constitution of India.**

The inter-state council is a recommendation body that has been empowered to investigate and discuss subjects of common interest between the Union and state(s), or among states.

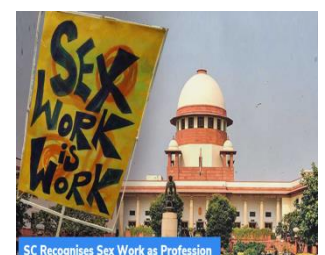
Composition:

Prime Minister as Chairman
Chief Ministers of all States Members
Chief Ministers of Union Territories having a Legislative Assembly and Administrators of UTs not having a Legislative Assembly and Governors of States under President's Rule (Governor's Rule in the case of J&K) Members.

Six Ministers of Cabinet rank in the Union Council of Ministers to be nominated by the Prime Minister Members.

SUPREME COURT RECOGNISED SEX WORK AS PROFESSION

Recently, the **Supreme Court** passed an order recognizing **sex work** as a "profession" and said that its practitioners across the country are entitled to equal protection as well as dignity under the law of the nation.



What judgments were passed by the Supreme Court regarding sex workers?

The **Supreme Court** invoked its special powers under which article to pass this order.

Criminal Law: Under this law, the sex workers of the country are entitled to equal protection of the **nation's law and criminal law** must be applied in all cases related to them on the basis of consent and age.

If a **sex worker is an adult and participating with consent**, the police must not interfere or take any criminal action against them.

The court has said that sex workers must not be **penalized, arrested, victimized, or harassed** whenever the police conduct a raid on any brothel, as voluntary sex work is not illegal, only the running of the brothel is unlawful.

Medical Care: Sex workers who are sexually assaulted must be provided every facility which includes immediate legal and medical care.

The court has also instructed the cops not to **discriminate against those sex workers who have lodged a complaint** against sexual offences against the workers.

Right of Child of a Sex Worker: The children of a sex worker must not be separated from their mother merely on the basis of profession. Basic **protection of dignity and human decency** must be provided to the sex workers and their children.

DHARMENDRA PRADHAN LAUNCHED 'PADHE BHARAT'



Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has launched a **100-day reading campaign 'Padhe Bharat'**.

The launch of the 100 Days Reading Campaign is in alignment with the **National**

Education Policy (NEP) 2020 which lays emphasis on the promotion of joyful reading culture for children by **ensuring the availability of age-appropriate reading books for children in local/mother tongue/regional/tribal language.**

Padhe Bharat campaign:

Padhe Bharat campaign will focus on children studying in Balvatika to Grade 8. **The reading campaign will be organized for 100 days (14 weeks) starting from January 1, 2022, to April 10, 2022.**

The reading campaign aims to have the participation of all stakeholders at the **national and state level including children, teachers, parents, community, educational administrators etc.** This campaign has also been aligned with the vision and goals of the foundational Literacy and Numeracy mission.

UNION GOVT. LAUNCHED SWACHH SURVEKSHAN 2023

The **Union Government of India** has launched the **Eighth Edition of Swachh Survekshan - SS-2023** under Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0.



Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs Manoj Joshi launched it at a virtual event in New Delhi. Designed with the theme of **'Waste to Wealth'** as its **driving philosophy**, **Swachh Survekshan- 2023** is curated towards achieving circularity in waste management.

The survey would give priority to the principle of 3 Rs- Reduce, Recycle and Reuse.

About the Swachh Survekshan

The **Swachh Survekshan** has developed into an **inspiration tool**, rather than being just an assessment tool. This largest survey undertaken anywhere has brought about substantive changes at the ground level, with cities performing well and having a sense of pride.

Swachh Survekshan has emerged as the **largest Urban sanitation survey** in the world. It was observed that whenever the Swachh Survey starts, there is an enhanced level of activities undertaken by the cities and cities are **visibly cleaner** during the months the survey is conducted.

ROLE OF CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF

The Government is reassessing the concept of post of **Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)** as well as the **Department of Military Affairs (DMA)** and is looking to streamline the setup.



The CDS is a four-star General/Officer who acts as the Principal Military Advisor to the Defence Minister on all tri-services (**Army, Navy and Indian Air Force**) matters.

What is the Role of the Chief of Defence Staff?

CDS acts as the **permanent Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee** which will also have three service chiefs as members.

His core function will be to foster greater operational synergy between the three service branches of the Indian military and keep inter-service frictions to a minimum. **He also heads the newly created Department of Military Affairs (DMA) in the Ministry of Defence.**

As the head of DMA, CDS is vested with the authority in prioritising inter-service procurement decisions as Permanent Chairman-Chiefs of Staff Committee.

PURI HERITAGE CORRIDOR PROJECT IN ODISHA



The Odisha government's **ambitious temple corridor project** in Puri has become a subject of political controversy.

What is the Puri Heritage Corridor Project?

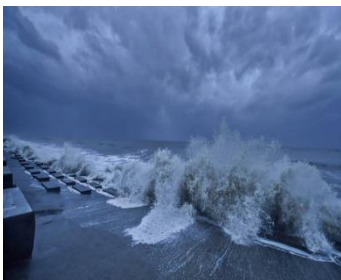
It is a **redevelopment project of the Odisha government in Puri** to create an international heritage site, including the Jagannath temple.

Though conceived in 2016, it was unveiled in December 2019. Under the **umbrella project falls the Shree Jagannatha Heritage Corridor (SJHC)** or the Shree Mandira Parikrama Project, for the revamp of the area around the temple.

The government allotted funds for the Project from its Augmentation of Basic **Amenities and Development of Heritage and Architecture at Puri (ABADHA)** scheme.

The ABADHA scheme includes Land Acquisition Charges/Re-habitation& Resettlement/ Road Improvement for providing better facilities in & around Shree Jagannath Temple.

CYCLONE ASANI TO HIT INDIA



On May 9th the **Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)** said that the severe cyclonic storm '**Asani**' is likely to weaken. **Asani is the first cyclonic storm of the season.**

Which country gave the name Asani?
Sri Lanka.

The cyclonic storm '**Asani**' was situated about 680km in direction of the south-southeast of Puri and 580km from Visakhapatnam as of noon on May 9th. **It is moving northwest at a speed of 25km per hour in the Bay of Bengal towards coastal Andhra Pradesh and Odisha.**

Tropical cyclone is a low-pressure system formed over warm tropical waters. Tropical cyclones can continue for many days, even weeks, and may follow quite erratic paths. **A cyclone will dissipate once it moves over land or cooler oceans.**

MAHARASHTRA & GUJARAT STATEHOOD DAY

Maharashtra and Gujarat celebrated their statehood day on 1st May 2022. On May 1st, 1960, the bilingual state of Bombay was divided into two separate states by the Bombay Reorganisation Act, 1960: **Maharashtra for Marathi speaking people and Gujarat for Gujarati speaking people.** Gujarat was established as the 15th state of the Indian Union.



Maharashtra

Capital: **Mumbai**

Arabian Sea guards the western boundary of Maharashtra, **while Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh are on the northern side.** Chhattisgarh covers the eastern boundary of the State. Karnataka and Telangana are on its southern side.

The State has been identified as the country's powerhouse and Mumbai, its capital as the centre point of India's financial and commercial markets.

Maharashtra has **two major ports, Mumbai Port and Jawaharlal Nehru Port (JNP)** both located in Mumbai harbour.

Gujarat

Capital: **Gandhinagar**

The state is **bounded by the Arabian Sea in the west, Pakistan and Rajasthan** in the north and north-east respectively, Madhya Pradesh in the south-east and Maharashtra in the south.

Gujarat is the first state in the nation to start a separate department of 'climate change' to tackle the issue of global warming.

Kandla Port is the major port in Gujarat along with 41 minor ports. Gamit, Bhils, Dhodias, Bawcha, and Kunbi are the major tribes present in the state.

RAJIV GANDHI ASSASSINATION CASE: SC VERDICT

The **Supreme Court used Article 142 of the Constitution to grant AG Perarivalan**, a convict in the assassination of former **Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi**, extraordinary

powers to “do complete justice in any cause or matter pending before it.”



Perarivalan was released free by a bench of **justices led by L.N. Rao and B.R. Gavai**, who took into account his lengthy incarceration.

Perarivalan spent 29 of his 32 years in prison in solitary confinement until being granted bail by the Supreme Court in March 2022.

He spent 16 years on execution row before the **court remitted his sentence to life imprisonment in 2014.**

The court further noted that Perarivalan had filed his clemency plea under Article 161 with the Tamil Nadu Governor in 2015, and that the state cabinet had instructed the state's chief executive to accept it in September 2018.

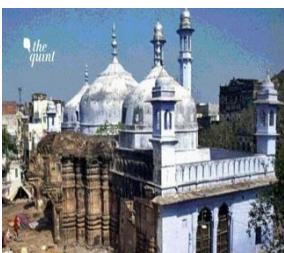
Background of the issue:

Rajiv Gandhi was slain in a suicide explosion at a rally in Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu, on May 21, 1991. Perarivalan was arrested on June 11, 1991, while he was only 19 years old.

On January 28, 1998, 26 persons were sentenced to death, **including Perarivalan and his co-accused Nalini.**

On May 11, 1999, the Supreme Court upheld the death sentences of Murugan, Santhan, Perarivalan, and Nalini.

PLACES OF WORSHIP (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 1991



The **Supreme Court will hear a challenge to the order of a civil court** in Varanasi directing a videographic survey of the Maa Shringar Gauri Sthal in the Kashi Vishwanath temple-Gyanvapi mosque complex.

The principal contention is that the order of the Varanasi court which was upheld by Allahabad High Court is “clearly interdicted” by The **Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991.**

What is the Places of Worship Act?

It is described as “**1 maintenance of the religious character of any place of worship** as it existed on the 15th day of August 1947, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

Exemption: The disputed site at Ayodhya was exempted from the Act. Due to this exemption, the trial in the Ayodhya case proceeded even after the enforcement of this law.

Besides the **Ayodhya dispute**, the Act also exempted: Any place of worship which is an ancient and historical monument, or an archaeological site covered by the **Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.**

Penalty: Section 6 of the Act prescribes a punishment of a maximum of three years imprisonment along with a fine for contravening the provisions of the Act.

What Are its Provisions?

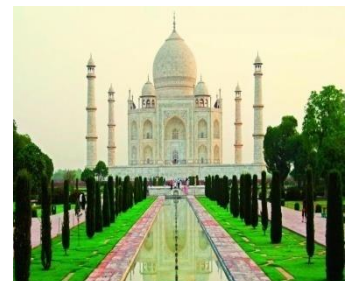
Section 3: This section of the Act bars the conversion, in full or part, of a place of worship of any religious denomination into a place of worship of a different religious denomination or even a different segment of the same religious denomination.

Section 4(1): It declares that the religious character of a place of worship “**shall continue to be the same as it existed**” on 15th August 1947.

Section 5: It stipulates that the Act shall not apply to the Ramjanmabhoomi-Babri Masjid case, **and to any suit, appeal, or proceeding relating to it.**

WHAT IS TAJ MAHAL CONTROVERSY?

A petition has been filed in the Allahabad High Court seeking directions to open 20 rooms of **Taj Mahal to check for the presence of Hindu Idols.**



The petition seeks a direction to the government to constitute a fact-finding committee to study and publish the '**real History of Taj Mahal**' and to **put to rest the controversy surrounding it.** The petition has been filed by **Rajneesh Singh.**

The petitioner has argued that several Hindutva groups claim that the **Taj Mahal is actually Tejo Mahalaya, an old Shiva temple.**

He has sought directions from the Allahabad HC to the Archaeological Survey of India to open the rooms inside the monument to ascertain facts and check whether there are **any idols or inscriptions hidden inside.**

The petitioner asserted that there is no harm in opening these rooms and settling all controversies to rest. **The writ petition was filed at the High Court on May 7, 2022.** It will first be processed by the registry of the Lucknow bench and then taken up for hearing.

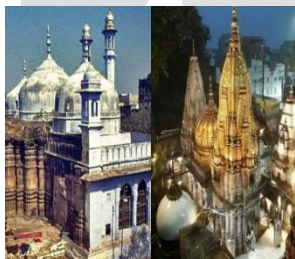
As per reports, the petition claims that King Paramardi Dev had built the Tejo Mahalaya temple palace in 1212 AD. The temple was then passed down to rulers and it was annexed by Shah Jahan in 1632 from king Jai Singh and converted into a memorial for his wife.

The petitioner claimed that it was absurd and beyond reality that the construction of a mausoleum takes 22 years for completion. He further stated that in many books, the wife of Shah Jahan is described as Mumtaz-ul-Zamani not Mumtaj Mahal.

The petition seeks to set aside the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and the Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Declaration of National Importance) Act, 1951, under which Taj Mahal along with other monuments was declared as a historical monument.

The petitioner seeks that correct and complete historical facts about the monument should be disclosed to the public since crores of money is being invested for the preservation of the ancient monument.

GYANVAPI MOSQUE & VISHWANATH TEMPLE CONTROVERSY?



The legal dispute started in 1991 when a petition was filed through advocate Vijay Shankar Rastogi on behalf of the Swayambhu Jyotirlinga Bhagwan Vishweshwar, the main deity of the temple, claiming that a temple was constructed by Maharaja Vikramaditya about 2,050 years ago at the spot.

They alleged that this temple was then demolished by the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb in 1669 and the mosque was constructed thereafter, using and upon the ruins of the temple. The Gyanvapi Mosque is located in Banaras, Uttar Pradesh, India.

Then about a century later, Ahilya Holkar, the queen of Indore built a new Kashi Vishwanath temple next to the mosque in 1780. It is considered the most significant shrine of Lord Shiva by many.

It is one of the more prominent of the 12 Jyotirlingas of Shiva, Vishveshvara or Vishvanath, that is also mentioned in the Skanda Purana.

The High Court responded by staying the proceedings in the lower court, where the matter continued to remain pending for 22 years.

Then in December 2019, a month after the Supreme Court declared its judgment on the Babri Masjid-Ram Janmabhoomi dispute, VS Rastogi filed a plea on behalf of the same Swayambhu Jyotirlinga Bhagwan Vishweshwar seeking an archaeological survey of the Gyanvapi mosque complex.

Rastogi filed the petition in the Varanasi court as the 'next friend' of the deity Vishweshwar.

Despite the stay on the trial by the concerned high court which is yet to deliver its verdict, the Varanasi court ordered the ASI to conduct a survey of the mosque on 8 April 2021.

The Sunni Waqf Board has said that they will challenge the order. The Allahabad High Court stayed the archaeological study of the Gyanvapi complex being done by the Archeological Survey of India (ASI).

INS 'SURAT' & INS 'UDAYGIRI'

Defence minister Rajnath Singh has launched two made-in-India warships INS 'Surat' and 'Udaygiri' at the Mazagon Docks in Mumbai. This is the first time that the two indigenously built warships have been launched together, the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL).

Both warships have been designed in-house by the Directorate of Naval Design (DND) and built at MDL, Mumbai.



About INS Surat:

Indian Naval Ship (INS) Surat is the fourth destroyer in Project 15B which is named after the second-largest commercial hub of western India.

Built using block construction, the ship involves the hull construction in two different geographical locations, which was then assembled at Mazagon Docks Limited.

About the INS Udaygiri:

Indian Naval Ship (INS) Udaygiri, named after a mountain range in Andhra Pradesh, is the third ship of Project 17A Frigates. It is a follow-on to the P17 Frigates (Shivalik Class) with improved stealth features, advanced weapons and sensors and platform management systems.

The new warship is the reincarnation of the erstwhile 'Udaygiri', the Leander class ASW frigate, which saw numerous challenging operations in its illustrious service to the country, spanning over three decades from February 1976 to August 2007.

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

CHINA'S GLOBAL SECURITY INITIATIVE



Speaking at the opening ceremony of the Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) Annual Conference 2022, Chinese President Xi Jinping has put forward a new Global Security Initiative.

According to the Chinese president, the initiative is to promote security for all in the world and to oppose unilateralism, and group politics and bloc confrontation.

The initiative is aimed at countering the initiatives of the West like the Indo-Pacific strategy of the USA, the Quad and the AUKUS (Australia-U.K.-U.S.) security pact.

What is Quad?

Quad is an informal strategic security dialogue comprising Australia, India, Japan, and the United States. Quad is viewed as a response to increased Chinese economic and military power.

China responded to the Quad by issuing formal diplomatic protests to its members. China called the Quad as "Asian NATO".

KATALIN NOVAK: FIRST FEMALE PRESIDENT OF HUNGARY



Katalin Novak has been elected as the first female President of the country. She is also Hungary's youngest President at 44 years of age.

Janos Ader was replaced by Katalin Novak as the new President of the country. **Novák will be holding this post for a five-year term.**

On 10th March Novak was elected as the president of the country by the Parliament of Hungary.

Peter Rona was her opponent during the 2022 Presidential election. He was nominated by United for Hungary, a political alliance that was created for the president's post.

She is a member of Fidesz – Hungarian Civic Alliance. She has also served as a member of the National Assembly from the year 2018 to 2022.

Under the fourth Viktor Orbán Government, she had also served as the Minister for Family Affairs from the year 2020 to 2021.

RUSSIA CELEBRATES VICTORY DAY ON 9TH MAY

Russian President Vladimir Putin commemorated the Soviet Union's World War II victory over Nazi Germany with a magnificent military display and a speech from Moscow's Red Square.



In a speech that blamed the West for the crisis but featured no new escalations, Russian President Vladimir Putin tied his war in Ukraine to that historic fight.

Russia Victory Day is a commemoration of the 1945 victory over Nazi Germany. Following the signing of the German Instrument of Surrender late in the evening on May 8, 1945, it was initially inaugurated in the Soviet Union's 15 republics (after midnight, thus on 9 May Moscow Time).

After the signing ceremony in Berlin, the Soviet government announced the victory early on May 9th. Although the holiday was officially established in 1945, it was only in 1965 that it became a non-working day, and then only in a few Soviet countries.

CZECH REPUBLIC TO REPLACE RUSSIA IN UNHRC

The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in a secret ballot voting elected the Czech Republic to replace Russia on the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC).



157 countries voted in favor of the Czech Republic in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) and there were 23 abstentions. **The Czech Republic retains the UNHRC seat till 31 December 2023.**

Russia was suspended from the UNHRC by a vote in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) for its human rights violations in Ukraine. *Later, Russia announced that it had withdrawn from UNHRC before the vote.*

The seats in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) are divided among regional groups and a

replacement for Russia had to come from an East European country. **The Czech Republic, an East European country, submitted a candidacy proposal to the UNHRC in April.**

In 2011, Libya was suspended from UNHRC because of the violence against protesters by forces supporting then-leader Muammar Gaddafi.

What is UNHRC?

The United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) is a UN organization that aims to protect human rights. It was established by the **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)** in 2006.

It replaced the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR). The headquarters of UNHRC is in Geneva in Switzerland.

FINLAND & SWEDEN URGES TO JOIN NATO



Recently, Finland and Sweden have shown interest to join the **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).**

Finland: It has stayed out of such alliances because it always wanted to **maintain cordial relations with its neighbour, Russia. For a long time, the idea of not joining NATO or getting too close to the West was a matter of survival for the Finns.**

However, the change in perception and an overwhelming support to join **NATO came about following the Russian invasion of Ukraine.**

Sweden: Unlike Finland, whose policy stance was a matter of survival, Sweden has been opposed to joining the organisation for ideological reasons.

What is NATO?

It is a military alliance established by the North Atlantic Treaty (also called the Washington Treaty) of April, 1949, by the **United States, Canada, and several Western European nations to provide collective security against the Soviet Union.**

There are currently 30 member states. Its original members were Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

SRILANKAN PM RESIGNED AMIDST CRISIS

Recently, the **Sri Lankan Prime Minister (PM) Mahinda Rajapaksa** tendered his resignation as Prime Minister to the Sri Lankan President.



Amid the economic crisis and intensified protests and violence, **Sri Lankan citizens have been demanding the resignation of the Prime Minister.**

Also, **Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa** wanted the Prime Minister to resign, as it will enable him to form an interim government and pave the way for a solution to the present crisis in Sri Lanka.

Mahinda Rajapaksa also served as a President. During his term, **Sri Lanka witnessed the defeat of Tamil Tiger rebels in 2009.** His term is marked by allegations of corruption, human rights abuses, and nexus with China, which led the country into a debt trap.

The Sri Lankan cabinet will be dissolved and a new Prime minister will be selected. A **unity government with the Opposition can be formed by the President.** The Parliament may be dissolved and fresh elections can be conducted for the Parliament.

A national council appointed by the President will select the new prime minister and Cabinet comprising all parties in the Sri Lankan Parliament.

What is the crisis in Sri Lanka?

Sri Lanka is facing its worst economic crisis. The nation does not even have enough foreign exchange reserves to import essential items like fuel, medicines, and food. It also defaulted on its foreign debts. **The economic turmoil gave rise to political instability and civil strife.**

YOON SUK-YEOL AS PRESIDENT OF SOUTH KOREA

Yoon Suk-yeol was sworn in as South Korean president in a huge ceremony at Seoul's National Assembly, taking office at a time of high tensions with nuclear-armed North Korea.



The ceremony was attended by over 40,000 people, including officials from the US and China. The new president is facing several challenges, including the task to balance ties with **China to defuse ongoing tensions with North Korea.**

Yoon Suk-yeol, who has called North Korea the South's "main enemy," offered to work with the international

community to craft an “audacious plan” to improve North Korea’s economy in return for its commitment to “complete denuclearization.”

The 20th president of the country delivered an inauguration speech vowing to build a nation that “truly belongs to the people.”

BRICS MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS MEETING



The **BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs meeting** will be hosted by China on 19th May 2022 via video conference. Since, the **invasion of Ukraine by Russia**, this is the first meeting of BRICS Foreign Ministers.

Jaishankar- Indian External Affairs Minister Naledi Pandor- Minister of International Relations and Cooperation South Africa Carlos Alberto- Minister of Foreign Affairs, Brazil. Sergey Lavrov- Minister of Foreign Affairs Russia.

In January 2022, the **BRICS Chairmanship was handed over to China by India.**

During this foreign minister’s meeting, the BRICS Foreign Ministers will also be holding a “**BRICS+ dialogue**” with other foreign ministers from various other developing countries and emerging markets. The names of the participating countries are not known.

What is the theme of BRICS 2022?

‘Foster High-Quality BRICS Partnership Usher in a New Era for Global Development’ is the theme for BRICS 2022.

BANGLADESH OFFERED CHITTAGONG PORT TO INDIA



Bangladesh Prime Minister offered India the use of the **Chittagong Port** in Bangladesh.

Access to the Chittagong Port will benefit India’s northeastern states like **Assam**,

Tripura, Meghalaya, and Mizoram.

Before independence, the northeastern part of **India had access to Chittagong Port via the Brahmaputra and Barak River systems.** After partition in 1947, India’s Northeast lost access to the sea.

The **Chittagong Port** had gone to **East Pakistan and India** lost a major trade route. However, India continued to use the ports of East Pakistan until the 1965 war with Pakistan.

After that, the northeast had to depend on the ‘chicken’s neck’ (a narrow strip in West Bengal) to carry out trade. However, in recent years **India got access to some ports of Bangladesh including Chittagong Port.**

Further revival of pre-Partition trade routes would improve the **trade for the Northeast region and generate revenue for Bangladesh.**

What are the other initiatives to revive these trade routes?

In March 2021, the **Prime Ministers of India and Bangladesh** inaugurated the Maitri Setu Bridge. It was built over the Feni River and reduced the distance between (Tripura) and the Chittagong port in Bangladesh.

Road infrastructure in **Meghalaya’s Dawki, Assam’s Sutarkandi**, and Tripura’s Akhaura linking Bangladesh is also being improved. Mizoram is planning to build bridges across the **Khawtlang Tuipui river for faster access to the Chittagong port.**

Where is Chittagong Port located?

Chittagong Port, Bangladesh’s principal seaport is built on the Karnafuli River. It is the busiest port along the coastline of the Bay of Bengal. **It is also used for transshipment by India, Nepal, and Bhutan.**

INDO-PACIFIC ECONOMIC FRAMEWORK (IPEF)

Recently, India’s Prime Minister participated in an event in Tokyo to launch the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF).

This economic initiative came a day before the second in-person summit of the Quad leaders (**India, the US, Australia and Japan**) in Tokyo.

What is QUAD?

It is the grouping of four democracies –India, Australia, the US, and Japan. All four nations find a common ground of being democratic nations and also support the common interest of unhindered maritime trade and security.

The Quad is billed as four democracies with a shared objective to ensure and support a “**free, open and prosperous**” Indo-Pacific region.



The idea of Quad was first mooted by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in 2007. However, the idea couldn't move ahead with Australia pulling out of it, apparently due to Chinese pressure. Finally in 2017, India, Australia, the US, and Japan, came together and formed this "quadrilateral" coalition.

What is the Significance of IPEF?

About: It is a US-led initiative that aims to strengthen economic partnership among participating countries to enhance resilience, sustainability, inclusiveness, economic growth, fairness, and competitiveness in the Indo-Pacific region. The IPEF was launched with a dozen initial partners who together represent 40% of the world GDP.

PIYUSH GOYAL TO LEAD INDIA IN WEF, DAVOS MEETING

The World Economic Forum's Annual Meeting kicks off in Davos, Switzerland. The Indian delegation will be led by Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal throughout the five-day meeting.



This event will assist to strengthen India's status as a vital and relevant player in creating the global narrative, especially as it prepares to take over the G-20 presidency next year.

The World Economic Forum will also serve as a platform for promoting India as a desirable investment destination, owing to its strong economic development and stable macroeconomic indicators.

Attendees:

Commerce and Industry Minister: **Piyush Goyal**
 Health and Family Welfare Minister: **Mansukh Mandaviya**
 Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister: **Hardeep Singh Puri**
 Chief Ministers and Senior Ministers from **Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Telangana** will be among the delegation's members.

ANTHONY ALBANESE SWORN IN AS AUSTRALIAN PM

Australia's Labor Party leader, Anthony Albanese was sworn in as the country's new prime minister.

Albanese claimed the victory in the election, ending his wait for power after nine years and with this **Anthony Albanese became the country's 31st Prime Minister.**



Outgoing Prime Minister Scott Morrison, who was heading the **Liberal-National coalition**, has conceded defeat. The 59-year-old new prime minister was sworn in at a **brief ceremony lasting in Government House, Canberra.**

Other members of his team to take office included Foreign Minister **Penny Wong**, who will join Albanese at the Quad summit, Treasurer **Jim Chalmers** and Finance Minister **Katy Gallagher.**

Australia Capital: **Canberra**

Australia Currency: **Australian dollar.**

EXERCISE 'BONGOSAGAR' B/W INDIA & BANGLADESH

The **third edition of Indian Navy (IN) - Bangladesh Navy (BN) Bilateral Exercise 'Bongosagar'** commenced at Port Mongla, Bangladesh on 24 May 2022.

The Harbour Phase of the exercise begins from 24-25 May which will be followed by a Sea Phase in the Northern Bay of Bengal from 26-27 May.



About Exercise Bongosagar:

Exercise Bongosagar is aimed at developing a high degree of interoperability and joint operational skills through the conduct of a wide spectrum of **maritime exercises and operations between the two navies.**

Indian Naval Ships Kora, an indigenously built **Guided Missile Corvette**, and **Sumedha**, an indigenously built **Offshore Patrol Vessel** are participating in the Exercise.

Bangladesh Navy is being represented by **BNS Abu Ubaidah** and **Ali Haider**, both **Guided Missile Frigates**

INDIA JOINS FIRST MOVERS COALITION INITIATIVE

India recently joined a **global public-private partnership initiative** called the **First Movers Coalition.**

The initiative was launched by **President of the USA Joe Biden** and the **World**



Economic Forum (WEF) at COP26. It was joined by 50 new corporate members with a collective market capitalization of USD 8.5 trillion

The **First Movers Coalition** aims to decarbonize the **most carbon-intensive sectors** such as the heavy industry and long-distance transport sectors, which are responsible for 30% of global emissions.

Apart from **India, Denmark, Italy, Japan, Norway, Singapore, Sweden, and the UK** joined the First Movers Coalition as government partners. India, Japan, and Sweden also joined the steering board of the First Movers Coalition.

18TH PERMANENT INDUS COMMISSION



The **Permanent Indus Commission** conference, which is held yearly **under the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) 1960**, began with India and Pakistan.

The Indus discussions have survived the tie-freeze since both countries regard it as a requirement of the IWT.

The **most recent summit**, held in New Delhi on **March 23-24, 2021**, focused on the exchange of hydrological and flood data.

In **March**, **India and Pakistan** reaffirmed their commitment to implementing the Indus Waters Treaty in its entirety, and expressed the hope that the Permanent

Indus Commission's next meeting will be conducted in India soon.

CHINA'S BUILDING 2ND BRIDGE ON PANGONG TSO

Recently, the **Ministry of External Affairs** has confirmed that China is building a **second bridge on the Pangong Tso lake**.

The site of the bridge is around 20 km east of Finger 8 on the lake's north bank – where the **Line of Actual Control (LAC)** passes. However, the **actual distance by road is more than 35 km** between the bridge site and Finger 8.



The construction site is just east of Khurnak Fort, where China has major frontier defence bases. China calls it Rutong Country. It has a frontier defence company at the Khurnak Fort, and further east, a **water squadron deployed at Banmozhang**.

The bridges are at one of the narrowest points on the lake, close to the LAC. These constructions will connect both sides of the lake, which would significantly cut down time for the **People's Liberation Army (PLA)** to move troops and armored vehicles.

Pangong Tso is a 135-km long landlocked lake located at an altitude of over 14,000 feet i.e., 4350 m above sea level. **India and China have around one-third and two-thirds** of Pangong Tso Lake respectively.

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ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

IMF'S WORLD ECONOMIC OUTLOOK



The latest edition of the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) **World Economic Outlook** cut its forecast for India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth in FY 2022-23 to 8.2%, making it the fastest-growing

major economy in the world, almost twice faster than China's 4.4 %.

What is the IMF's Growth Forecast?

Indian Scenario: It has also lowered India's growth projection by 0.8 % points for 2022-23 from its previous forecast (9%) for the same period in 2021.

In 2021, India registered a growth rate of 8.9 %. In 2023-24, India is estimated to grow at 6.9 %. **With import bills rising due to high commodity and fuel prices**, the IMF estimates India's current account deficit to widen to 3.1% in FY 2022-23 from 1.6% in FY 2021-22.

Global Scenario:

The IMF has **projected global growth at 3.6 % in 2022 and 2023, 0.8 and 0.2 % lower** than in the January 2022 forecast, respectively. A deceleration in global growth dampens India's growth prospects especially because it would lead to lower demand for Indian exports.

RBI HIKES CRR & RR SINCE MAY 2020



In an unscheduled meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee, the **central bank, however, retained the accommodative monetary policy.**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in its Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting held between May 2-4, 2022 has decided to increase the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) by 40 basis points (bps) to 4.40 per cent with immediate effect from 4.00% earlier. RBI has also hiked the cash reserve ratio (CRR) by 50 basis points to 4.50 per cent effective from May 21, 2022.

Consequently, the various rates are as under:

Policy Repo Rate: 4.40%

Standing Deposit Facility (SDF): 4.15%

Marginal Standing Facility Rate: 4.65%

Bank Rate: 4.65%

CRR: 4.50% (Effective from May 21, 2022.)

SLR: 18.00%

1ST INDIAN COMPANY TO CROSS \$100 BILLION REVENUE

Reliance Industries became the first Indian company to record annual revenue of more than a **whopping \$100 billion**. The company has recorded a 22.5% rise in net profit for the quarter ended March 2022.



Reliance has recorded strong growth in retail, digital services, and the oil & gas business. **The company has also reported the highest-ever quarterly EBITDA** (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation) of Rs 33,968 crores (28% up) year-on-year.

Reliance's earnings also rose because of a rise in broadband subscribers, online retail gaining traction and new energy investment picking roots.

Consolidated revenue of the nation's biggest company by market value rose 35 per cent year-on-year to Rs 2.32 lakh crore in the fourth quarter of FY22.

For the full fiscal 2021-22 (April 2021 to March 2022), Reliance reported a net profit of Rs 60,705 crore on a revenue of Rs 7.92 lakh crore (USD 102 billion). It is the first Indian company to have crossed USD 100 billion in revenue in a year.

DELHI APPROVED 'DELHI START-UP POLICY'

The **Delhi cabinet has approved the "Delhi Startup Policy"** with an aim to create an ecosystem for people to launch startups and provide them with fiscal and non-fiscal incentives, collateral-free loans, and free consultancy from experts, lawyers, and CA.

The 20 members task force will be set up to oversee the startup policy. This committee will be headed by Delhi's Finance Minister. To **encourage, facilitate, and support 15,000 startups by 2030.**

The Delhi Government will pay up to 50% of the rent of a startup's office lease or pitch in for a portion of the salaries that these startups will pay to their employees. We will also reimburse them for the costs



incurred on applying for patents, copyrights and trademarks.

Monitoring committee

The government will form a monitoring committee to oversee the startup policy. **This committee will be headed by Delhi's Finance Minister.**

The composition of this committee will be - 85% representatives from the private sector, 10% from educational institutions and 5% from the government.

SAUDI ARAMCO: WORLD'S MOST VALUABLE COMPANY



Oil giant Saudi Aramco has dethroned Apple Inc. to become the world's most valuable company, underscoring the recent surge in oil prices that have boosted the energy giant this year.

Aramco traded near its highest level on record, with a market capitalization of about **\$2.43 trillion, surpassing that of Apple for the first time since 2020.**

The iPhone maker fell 5.2% to close at \$146.50 per share, **giving it a valuation of \$2.37 trillion.**

Even if the move proves short-lived and Apple retakes the top spot again, the role reversal underscores **the power of major forces coursing through the global economy.**

Soaring oil prices, while great for profits at Aramco, are exacerbating rising inflation that is forcing the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates at the fastest pace in decades.

The higher rates go, the more investors discount the value of future revenue flows **from tech companies and push down their stock prices.**

US BECOMES INDIA'S TOP TRADING PARTNER

The **United States overtook China to become India's top trading partner in 2021-22**, reflecting strong economic ties between the two countries. According to commerce ministry data, in 2021-22, bilateral trade between the US and India stood at US\$ 119.42 billion as against US\$ 80.51 billion in 2020-21.



Exports to the US increased to US\$ 76.11 billion in 2021-22

from US\$ 51.62 billion in the previous fiscal, while imports rose to US\$ 43.31 billion as compared to around US\$ 29 billion in 2020-21.

During 2021-22, **India's two-way commerce with China** aggregated at \$115.42 billion as compared to \$86.4 billion in 2020-21, the data showed.

Exports to China marginally increased to \$21.25 billion last fiscal year from \$21.18 billion in 2020-21, while imports jumped to \$94.16 billion from about \$65.21 billion in 2020-21. The trade gap rose to \$72.91 billion in 2021-22 from \$44 billion in the previous fiscal year.

India's Top Trading Partners 2021-22:

In 2021-22, the **UAE is India's third-largest trading partner with USD 72.9 billion.** It is followed by Saudi Arabia (USD 42.85 billion) as 4th, Iraq (USD 34.33 billion) as 5th, & Singapore (USD 30 billion) as its 6th largest trading partner.

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APPOINTMENTS

RAJIV KUMAR APPOINTED AS NEW CEC



Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar was appointed as the next chief election commissioner. He will assume charge on May 15 after incumbent Sushil Chandra demits office on May 14, a notification issued by the Law Ministry said.

In pursuance of clause (2) of **Article 324 of the Constitution**, the President appointed Shri Rajiv Kumar as the Chief Election Commissioner with effect from the 15th of May 2022.

Kumar took charge as the Election Commissioner of the **Election Commission of India (ECI)** on September 1, 2020.

Prior to assuming charge in the Election Commission, Kumar had been the chairman of the Public Enterprises Selection Board. He joined as the **PESB chairman in April 2020**.

Election Commission of India Formed: **25 January 1950**;
Election Commission of India Headquarters: **New Delhi**.

APPOINTMENT OF TWO NEW SC JUDGES



The Union government of India has notified the appointment of **Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia**, the chief justice of Gauhati High Court, and **Justice Jamshed Burjor Pardiwala**, a judge of the Gujarat High Court, as

judges of the Supreme Court.

The **Collegium** headed by Chief Justice of India **NV Ramana** had recommended their names for appointment on May 5.

The other members of the Collegium are Justices **UU Lalit**, **AM Khanwilkar**, **DY Chandrachud** and **L Nageswara Rao**.

At present, the **Supreme Court has a strength of 32 judges as against a sanctioned strength of 34 judges**. The fresh appointments will help regain the 34-judge strength, but two other vacancies will arise soon with Justice Vineet Saran set to retire on May 10 and Justice Nageswara Rao on June 7.

CAMPBELL WILSON APPOINTED AS CEO & MD OF AIR INDIA

Tata Sons has appointed **Campbell Wilson** as the new **CEO and MD of Air India**. The newly-appointed Wilson was until recently the CEO of Scoot, a low-cost subsidiary of Singapore Airlines.



Campbell Wilson has 26 years of aviation industry expertise across both the full service and low-cost airlines. On January 27, 2022, **Tata Sons had taken over Air India from the Government**.

After the competitive bidding process, Air India was sold on October 21, 2021 to **Talace Private Limited**, a subsidiary of the **Tata Group's** holding company, worth Rs. 18,000 crores. Campbell Wilson started off as a Management Trainee with **SIA in New Zealand in 1996**.

Wilson then worked **for SIA in Canada, Hong Kong and Japan** before returning to Singapore in 2011 as the founding CEO of Scoot, which he led until 2016.

NIDHI CHIBBER AS NEW CHAIRPERSON OF CBSE

Senior IAS officer, **Nidhi Chibber** has been appointed as the chairperson of the **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)** in a top-level bureaucratic reshuffle affected by the Centre.



Chibber, a 1994 batch Indian Administrative Service officer of Chhattisgarh cadre, is currently Additional Secretary, Ministry of Heavy Industries.

About the CBSE:

The **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)** is a national level board of education in India for public and private schools, controlled and managed by the Government of India.

Established in **1929 by a resolution of the government**, the Board was indeed a bold experiment toward inter-state integration and cooperation in the sphere of secondary education. There are **approximately 26,054 schools in India and 240 schools** in 28 foreign countries affiliated to the CBSE.

VINAI KUMAR SAXENA AS DELHI NEW L-G

Vinai Kumar Saxena will be the new lieutenant governor of Delhi, President Ram Nath Kovind's office announced.

The President of India has been pleased to appoint Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena to be the Lt. Governor of the National Capital Territory of Delhi with effect from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

The President of India has accepted the resignation of Anil Baijal as Lt. Governor National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Brief profile of the new Delhi L-G:

Saxena is the current chairman of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, an organisation under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

He was born on March 23, 1958, and is a Kanpur University alumnus with a Pilot license. In March 2021,

he was appointed by the Union government as a member of the national committee to commemorate 75 years of India's independence.

In November 2020, he was nominated as a member of the Padma Awards selection panel for the year 2021. In 1984, Vinay Kumar Saxena joined the well-known JK Group in Rajasthan as an assistant officer. In the group's white cement plant in the state, he worked for 11 years in various capacities.

In 1991, he founded the National Council for Civil Liberties (NCCL), a non-profit NGO with its headquarters in Ahmedabad. NCCL is recognised by the Ministry of Law and Justice.



PRAVAHINI

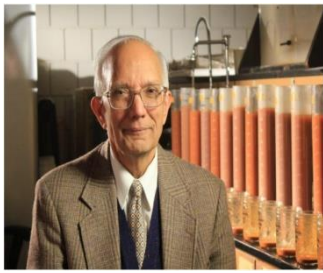
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AWARDS & HONOR

WORLD FOOD PRIZE 2020



The World Food Prize is an award that is given with the aim of recognizing the achievements of individuals from across the world that have helped in advancing the development of humans by improving the

quantity, quality, or availability of food across the world.

Cynthia Rosenzweig, NASA's head of the Climate Impacts Group and a senior research scientist at Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS) received this year's prize from the World Food Prize Foundation on 5th May 2022.

She received USD 250,000 along with a commemorative sculpture and a diploma.

She received the award for her research that helped understand the relationship between food systems and climate and the forecast of how both will be changing in the future.

This award was conceived by Norman Borlaug, a recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize. In the year 1986, this prize was established with the support of General Foods. The first prize was given in the year 1987.

PRESIDENT OF INDIA CONFERRED GALLANTRY AWARDS



President of India, Ram Nath Kovind conferred 13 Shaurya Chakras which included six posthumous to the personnel of the Indian Armed forces for their conspicuous courage displayed during operations.

Army Chief General Manoj Pande was conferred with the Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM) for his distinguished service of exceptional order at a defence investiture ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhawan.

The President also conferred 14 PVSM, four Uttam Yudh Seva Medals (UYSM) and 24 Ati Vishisht Seva Medals (AVSM) for distinguished service of an exceptional order.

These awards of Gallantry and other Defence decorations conferred were approved by the President in January on the eve of the 73rd Republic Day celebrations this January.

Gen Manoj Pande assumed the charge of the 29th Chief of the Army Staff on April 30. Before that, he was serving as the Vice Chief of Army Staff for three months and was the General Officer Commander in Chief, Eastern Command of the Army before that.

2022 TEMPLETON PRIZE AWARDED TO FRANK WILCZEK

The 2022 Templeton Prize was awarded to Frank Wilczek, a theoretical physicist who had won the Nobel Prize, author, and professor at the Arizona State University.



His works on nature's fundamental laws have transformed the understanding of the forces that govern the universe. He has become the 6th Nobel laureate who has received the Templeton Prize.

In the year 2004, he won the Nobel Prize in Physics along with H. David Politzer and David Gross. They won the prize for discovering asymptotic freedom in the strong interaction theory.

This is an award given annually to a person who is living and whose meritorious achievements advance the philanthropic vision of Sir John Templeton which is to harness the power of science with the aim of understanding the deepest questions regarding the universe and humankind.

When was the Templeton Prize established?

In the year 1972. This prize was established, administered, and funded by John Templeton. Currently, this prize is co-funded by the John Templeton Foundation, Templeton World Charity Foundation, and Templeton Religion Trust.

This prize is currently administered by the John Templeton Foundation. This prize was originally awarded to the people who are working in the area of religion but in the 1980s the field was expanded to include people working at the intersection of religion and science.

The first recipient of the Templeton Prize was Mother Teresa in the year 1973.

INTERNATIONAL BOOKER PRIZE 2022



'Tomb of Sand' became the first Hindi novel to win the International Booker Prize 2022. The novel claimed the title despite not having been reviewed by any major British newspaper.

It is the first time that an Indian language won an **International Booker Prize** and the first in Hindi to even secure a nomination.

'Tomb of Sand' or in Hindi known as **'Ret Samadhi'** narrates the story of an 80-years old woman who

experiences a deep depression after the death of her husband.

Eventually, she overcomes the depression and decides to visit **Pakistan to finally confront the past** that she had left behind during partition.

The Chair of the judges of 2022 **International Booker** describes **'Tomb of Sand'** as an **'extraordinarily exuberant and incredibly playful book'**, even though it deals with the topics such as bereavement and India's partition from Pakistan.

Who is Geetanjali Shree? Author of 'Tomb of Sand'

Geetanjali Shree was born in UP's Mainpuri and is presently based in Delhi. She has authored three novels and several collections of short stories, many of which have been translated into French, English, Serbian, German and Korean.

PRAVAHINI

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SPORTS

ASIAN GAMES 2022 POSTPONED TO 2023



The Asian Games 2022, due to be held in Hangzhou, China in September, has been postponed to 2023 due to rising COVID-19 cases in the country, the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) announced.

The Olympic Council of Asia, the governing body for the Asian Games, said it will announce the new dates for the 19th edition of the Games. The Asian Games 2022 were originally scheduled from September 10 to 25.

The host city of Hangzhou is less than 200km away from Shanghai, which is currently fighting another major COVID-19 outbreak and has strict restrictions in place, including a weeks-long lockdown.

The OCA also announced that the third edition of the Asian Youth Games, scheduled to be held in Shantou in December, have been cancelled. The World University Games 2021, to be held from June 26 to July 27 in Chengdu this year, have also been pushed to 2023.

INDIAN MEN'S BADMINTON TEAM CREATED HISTORY

India created history by winning the Thomas Cup title for the first time.


Thomas cup: It is an international badminton competition among men's teams of various countries of the Badminton World Federation (BWF). It is also known as the World Men's Team Championships.




Since 1982, cup championships have been held every two years. Before that, they were conducted once every three years. The first Thomas cup tournament was conducted in 1948-1949.

Where was the Thomas cup 2022 held: Bangkok, Thailand.

India defeated Indonesia in the Thomas cup finals by 3-0. The Indonesian team is the defending champion.






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DATES & DAYS

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR DAY OBSERVED ON 1ST MAY



International Labour Day is observed globally on 1st May every year. It is also known as International Workers Day and May Day.

The day is celebrated to spread awareness about Labour's rights and mark their achievements. **The day aims to pay tribute to workers' sacrifices in achieving economic and social rights all over the world.**

History of International Labour Day:

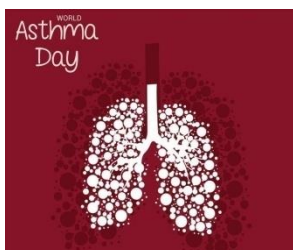
This all started in 1886 when on 1st May when people in the United States of America started a strike to fix the working duration to a maximum of 8 hours per day. Soon, there was a bomb blast that took place on **4th May in Haymarket Square of Chicago** in which many people died and many others were severely injured.

With respect to those who died in the incident, the **socialist pan-national organization started on 1st May as International Labour Day** which also promoted labour welfare throughout the world.

In India, the first Labour Day or May Day was celebrated in **Madras (now known as Chennai) by the Labour Kisan Party of Hindustan on May 1, 1923.** It was also the first time when the Red Flag which symbolises Labour Day was used in India for the first time.

In Hindi, Labour Day is also known as Kamgar Din or Antarrashtriya Shramik Diwas, Kamgar Divas in Marathi and Uzhaipalar Naal in Tamil.

WORLD ASTHMA DAY OBSERVED ON 3RD MAY



World Asthma Day is observed every year on the first Tuesday of May to spread awareness and care about asthma in the world. **This year it falls on 3rd of May 2022.**

An annual event is organized by the Global Initiative for Asthma. This year the theme is '**Closing Gaps in Asthma Care**'. Asthma, the chronic inflammatory disease of the

airways, affects 300 million people worldwide and India alone has 15 million asthma patients.

World Asthma Day is annually organized by the **Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA)**. In 1998, the first World Asthma Day was celebrated in more than 35 countries in conjunction with the first World Asthma Meeting in Barcelona, Spain.

Asthma is a chronic disease of the lungs that causes breathing problems. Symptoms of asthma include breathlessness, coughing, wheezing and a feeling of tightness in the chest.

WORLD RED CROSS DAY OBSERVED ON 8TH MAY

World Red Cross Day is observed globally on 8th May every year. **The day aims to broaden the public's understanding of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.**



Red Crescent Societies are affiliated and work in cooperation with the World Red Cross to assist in the activities of the movement. **National Red Crescent societies and Red Cross Societies are found in almost every nation worldwide.**

The theme of World Red Cross Day 2022:

The theme of World Red Cross Day 2022 is **#BeHUMANKIND (Believe in the power of Kindness)**. The theme of World Red Cross Day 2022 focuses on the power of kindness and how it can impact the whole world.

Red Crescent Movement:

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement is a **humanitarian movement with approximately 97 million volunteers, members and staff worldwide, which was founded to protect human life and health, to ensure respect for all human beings, and to prevent and alleviate human suffering.**

Henry Dunant was born on 8th May, 1828 and also was the winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. **World Red Cross Day is also known as World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day.** In 1863, Henry Dunant established the Red Cross Committee International in Geneva, Switzerland. **In 1934, the principles of the Red Cross Truce were presented at the 15th International Conference.** It was

approved at the same conference. World Red Cross Day is annually celebrated on May 8, 1948. In 1984 it was named World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day.

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY DAY: 11TH MAY



Every year, **May 11th is celebrated in India as National Technology Day** to mark the anniversary of the Pokhran nuclear tests (Pokhran-II) conducted in May 1998.

They were a series of five nuclear tests conducted under the **administration of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam** at the Indian Army's Pokhran Test Range in Rajasthan's Thar desert from 11th to 13th May 1998.

What is the theme for this year's National Technology Day?

Integrated Approach in Science & Technology for a Sustainable Future.

The National Technology day honors scientists and engineers for their technological contributions to India.

The **Technology Development Board (TDB)** under the Department of Science and Technology calls for applications for the national awards for the commercialization of technologies.

Technology Development Board (TDB) is a statutory body, established in 1996 under the Technology Development Board Act, 1995. The **objective of TDB** is to promote the development and commercialization of indigenous technology.

INTERNATIONAL NURSES' DAY OBSERVED ON MAY 12TH



modern nursing.

May 12 is observed as International Nurses' Day across the world to honour the services of nurses. It is the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale, the English social reformer, statistician and founder of

She was also known as Lady with the Lamp. She was the founder of modern nursing and was a British social reformer and statistician.

The theme of International Nurses Day 2022:

The theme for this year's Nurses' Day is "Nurses: A Voice to Lead – Invest in Nursing and respect rights to

secure global health". Many hospitals across the world are observing International Nurses Week from May 6 to 12. As part of it, several activities, including yoga sessions and seminars are being organised.

The Florence Nightingale story

Nightingale gained prominence during the Crimean War between Russia and Britain in the 1850s. Along with her team of 38 women, **she took care of British soldiers who were dealing with horrible sanitation facilities apart from battling Russian forces.**

WORLD MIGRATORY BIRDS DAY OBSERVED ON 14TH MAY

World Migratory Bird Day has been marked twice a year since its inauguration in 2006. International Migratory Bird Day will be **celebrated on 14 May and 8 October 2022.**



The day is celebrated with an aim to safeguard migratory birds' breeding, non-breeding as well as stopover habitats while preserving a healthy bird population.

This is important because birds have an important role to play in the environment. They are **needed to maintain the ecological balance.**

Birds are nature's ambassadors, which is why it is necessary to restore ecological connection and integrity in order to boost migratory bird migration.

The theme of the World Migratory Bird Day 2022:

The theme for World Migratory Bird Day 2022 is **light pollution.** As artificial lighting has been increasing globally by at least 2 per cent per annum, this has had an adverse impact on many birds.

Light pollution is a **major threat to migratory birds** as it leads to disorientation when they fly at night, this, in turn, leads to collisions and also interferes with their long-distance migrations.

History of International Migratory Bird Day:

International Migratory Bird Day was marked in 2006 when the United Nations decided that the world's population needs to be made aware of the worldwide migratory linkages.

Since then, 118 countries have participated in and organised the event. The **United Nations (UN) Agreement** on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds had envisioned the World Migratory Bird Day.

NATIONAL DENGUE DAY OBSERVED ON 16TH MAY



National Dengue Day is observed on the 16th of May every year in India. National Dengue day was an initiative of the Ministry of health and family welfare to make **people aware of dengue and its prevention measures**.

It also has the people to know how to prepare and control dengue before the transmission season begins.

About dengue: *Aedes Aegypti*, is the main cause of the spread of dengue. It is a female mosquito that bites and transmits dengue to human beings.

Dengue is a mosquito-borne disease that is caused by the dengue virus of 4 distinct stereotypes, **namely, DEN-1, DEN-2, DEN-3, and DEN-4**. Symptoms of dengue are severe muscle pain nausea and it may also lead to death if not cured properly.

INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY OBSERVED ON 18TH MAY

International Museum Day (IMD) is celebrated every year on **18 May**. This day is observed to highlight the importance of museums in any culture.

Museums are **important means of cultural exchange, enrichment of cultures and development** of mutual understanding, cooperation and peace among peoples.

International Museum Day is celebrated with the aim of educating the public about museums and the challenges they face.

International Museum Day 2022 Theme:

This year, the theme for International Museum Day is **'The Power of Museums'**. As per ICOM's website, the theme focuses on exploring the power of museums to achieve sustainability, to innovate on digitalisation and accessibility, and the power of community building through education.

ANTI-TERRORISM DAY OBSERVED ON 21ST MAY

Anti-Terrorism Day is observed every year on 21 May, on the death anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. **He was assassinated on May 21, 1991, by the LTTE terrorists while campaigning for the Congress Party at Sriperumbudur in Tamil Nadu.**

Rajiv Gandhi became India's youngest PM when he was sworn in at 40. **He took over as the sixth PM of the country after Indira Gandhi's assassination in 1984. He served from 1984 to 1989.**



Significance of Anti-Terrorism Day 2022:

Anti-Terrorism Day is celebrated to promote peace and harmony. Terrorists feel the need to inflict disaster on innocent people either because they are brain-washed because they believe it is their religious purpose or simply because they don't have a conscience.

WORLD TURTLE DAY OBSERVED ON MAY 23

World Turtle Day is celebrated every year on May 23 globally to raise awareness about helping turtles survive and thrive in their natural habitat.



The **objective of World Turtle Day 2022** is also to educate people about the things that they can do to protect the habitats of turtles as well as tortoises.

World Turtle Day 2022

World Turtle Day was **founded by the American Tortoise Rescue (ATR) in 1990**. ATR is a non-profit organization which was established by a husband and a wife duo, Susan Tellem and Marshall Thomspen.

ATR rescues and rehabilitates all the species of tortoise and turtles who are endangered, vulnerable, or critically endangered. Since its establishment, **American Tortoise Rescue** has taken care of about 4,000 tortoise and turtles,

World Turtle Day 2022 Theme

The World Turtle Day 2022 theme is- **'Shellebrate!' Asks Everyone to Love and Save Turtles.**

WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY: MAY 31ST

World No Tobacco Day is observed every year on May 31 to raise awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco usage.

World No Tobacco Day 2022 highlights the negative impacts of tobacco and its industry on human health and the environment.

It also alerts people about the steps that can be taken to keep themselves and their surroundings safe from tobacco.

World No Tobacco Day 2022 promoted by the **World Health Organisation** also promotes the governments around the world to put policies into action that can help reduce smoking as well as the use of other tobacco products. As per **the global health body, tobacco kills** more than 8 million people around the world every year.

The **Indian Government** also came up with various initiatives to control tobacco consumption in the country. On **World No Tobacco Day 2022**, learn more about the COTPA Act and how it affected tobacco consumption in the country.

World No Tobacco Day was created by the member states of the **World Health Organisation** in 1987. The same year, a resolution was also passed by the World Health Assembly for the creation of a World No Smoking Day.

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REPORT & INDEXES

INDIA RANKED 150 IN WORLD PRESS FREEDOM INDEX

India **ranked 150 on the World Press Freedom Index 2022**. This index is released by the Reporters Sans Frontières (RSF).



This index was published on 3rd May 2022 which also coincides with the World Press Freedom Day 2022. This index evaluates press freedom levels in 180 territories and countries across the globe.

In this year's index, the country slipped eight positions from 142 to 150th position. India is said to be one of the most dangerous countries for the press. In the country, an average of 3 to 4 journalists is killed each year. In this index's inaugural edition, India was ranked 80th.

This index has been published annually since the year 2020. This index is published by the Reporters Sans Frontières (RSF) or Reporters Without Borders.

This index is used to rank countries according to the press freedom levels available to the journalists of a country. The index doesn't serve as an indicator of journalism quality.

The rankings are based on scores that range from 0 to 100. A score between the ranges is assigned to each country or region. 100 is the maximum score that can be given while 0 denotes the worst.

Each region or country is evaluated by using five indicators which are:

- legal framework
- political context
- sociocultural context
- economic context
- safety

Which are the top 5 countries in the index?

- Norway
- Denmark
- Sweden
- Estonia
- Finland

WEF TRAVEL & TOURISM DEVELOPMENT INDEX 2021

In the WEF Travel and Tourism Development Index 2021, India has been ranked at 54th place. In 2019, India had ranked at 46th position.

However, the country still topped within the South Asia region. This index is the Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index's direct evolution, having been published biennially for the last 15 years.



In the 2021 index, the top place has been grabbed by Japan. The country is followed by the United States, Spain, France, and Germany respectively. The score of India in this list is 4.2.

Which are the top 10 countries on the list?

- Japan (5.2)
- United States (5.2)
- Spain (5.2)
- France (5.1)
- Germany (5.1)
- Switzerland (5.0)
- Australia (5.0)
- United Kingdom (5.0)
- Singapore (5.0)
- Italy (4.9)

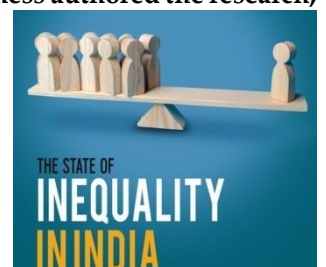
The Travel and Tourism Development Index 2021 of the World Economic Forum comprises 117 countries.

This index has shown that despite various positive trends, the tourism and travel industry is still facing hurdles and are yet to recover properly.

STATE OF INEQUALITY IN INDIA REPORT

Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council Chairman Dr. Bibek Debroy, launched the State of Inequality in India Report (EAC-PM).

The Institute for Competitiveness authored the research, which provides a comprehensive examination of the level and type of inequality in India.



The study combines data on inequality in the health, education, household

characteristics, and labour market sectors. Inequities in these areas, according to the research, render the population more vulnerable and lead to multidimensional poverty.

Key Points of State Inequality Report:

There has been significant progress in strengthening health infrastructure capacity, with a particular focus on rural regions.

In 2005, there were **1,72,608 total health centres in India; by 2020, there would be 1,85,505.**

Between 2005 and 2020, states and union territories like **Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Chandigarh** expanded the number of health centres (which include Sub-Centres, Primary Health Centre's, and Community Health Centres).

State of Inequality Report Data:

The report looks at five main factors that determine the nature and experience of inequality. It is divided into two parts: **Economic Facets and Socio-Economic Manifestations.**

Income distribution and labour market dynamics, **as well as health, education, and household characteristics, are among them.**

WORLD AIR POWERS RANKING OF 2022

The World Directory of Modern Military Aircraft (WDMMA) has released the **World Air Powers ranking of 2022.**

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has been placed at the third position on the World Air Power Index in terms of the total fighting strength of the various air services of different nations of the world.

This report has placed the **Indian Air Force (IAF)** above the Chinese Aviation based armed forces (PLAAF), **Japan Air Self-Preservation Power (JASDF)**, Israeli Aviation based armed forces, and French Air and Space Power.

The report says that the Indian Air Force (IAF) currently counts 1,645 total units in its active aircraft inventory. **The Global Air Powers Ranking (2022)** report has given the highest TvR score to the United States Air Force (USAF).

In addition, it maintains dedicated strategic-level bombers, a sizeable helo, CAS aircraft, fighter force and hundreds of transport aircraft and the USAF will be reinforced in the coming days with hundreds of units still on order.



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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

WHAT IS GAGAN SATELLITE TECHNOLOGY?



India has achieved a **major landmark after the Airports Authority of India (AAI)** successfully conducted a trial by applying the latest indigenous satellite-based augmentation system (SBAS) technology named **GAGAN (GPS Aided GEO**

Augmented Navigation).

IndiGo became the first airline in Asia that used the **indigenously developed satellite-based navigation system** while landing at the Kishangarh airport, Rajasthan. India is the first country in the Asia Pacific region that has achieved this.

GAGAN has been jointly developed by the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** and the **Airports Authority of India (AAI)**. By using uplink and reference stations, this system provides **corrections to the global positioning system (GPS) signal** so as to improve the management of air traffic.

It is a **Satellite-Based Augmentation System** that **provides Satellite-based Navigation services** with integrity and accuracy that is required for civil aviation applications. Through the usage of this system better Air Traffic Management can be provided over the Indian Airspace.

ISRO PLANNING TO LAUNCH VENUS MISSION



The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is planning to launch a spacecraft to Venus in December 2024.

The objective of the **ISRO Venus mission** is to **study what lies below the**

surface of Venus & to study Venus' atmosphere, which is toxic and corrosive in nature as clouds of sulfuric acid cover the planet

Investigation of the surface processes and shallow subsurface stratigraphy, including active volcanic hotspots and lava flows. Studying the structure, composition, and dynamics of the atmosphere.

Investigation of solar wind interaction with the Venusian Ionosphere (**where the atmosphere meets space**).

If the spacecraft is launched in December 2024, orbital manoeuvre can be planned in 2025. In 2025, the **Earth and Venus would be aligned in a manner** that it would require a minimum amount of propellant for the spacecraft to enter the orbit of Venus.

INDIAN NAVY TO PURCHASE GISAT-2 SATELLITE

The Indian Navy plans to purchase a specialised **earth imaging satellite Geo Imaging Satellite-2 (GISAT-2)**, this fiscal year as part of its modernisation and network-centric combat and communications programme.



The satellite, if operational, is likely to improve the **navy's operating capabilities in the Indian Ocean region**, which is strategically and geopolitically crucial, especially given China's growing influence.

According to information from the Ministry of Defence, the **GISAT-2 is one of 21 planned procurements, including several long-term buys.**

In addition, the navy's capabilities development/modernization is being carried out in line with the long-term objectives in place for the next decade. **Under the budget projections for 2022-23**, the navy would receive Rs 45,250 crore for modernisation.

With a 10% annual growth rate, it is expected to receive more Rs 2.7 lakh crore for upgrading by 2026-27. According to the Ministry of Defense, the navy's total committed liabilities are Rs 1.20 lakh crores, and modernization schemes worth more than Rs 1.9 lakh crores and Rs 2.5 lakh crores (under Part A and B of the annual acquisition plan) are being advanced for contract conclusion over the next five years.

Aside from GISAT-2, the navy plans to buy: **Next-generation missile vessels, fleet support ships (FSS), high and medium altitude long endurance remotely piloted aircraft systems, multi-role carrier borne fighters**, indigenous aircraft carrier-2; next-generation fast attack craft; next-generation corvettes, destroyers, fast interceptor craft, and survey vessel; national hospital ship; electronic warfare system; extra-large unmanned underwater vehicle; anti-ship missiles (cons).

SUPERCOMPUTER 'PARAM PORUL' INAUGURATED AT NIT

A **supercomputer named Param Porul** was inaugurated at NIT Tiruchirappalli under **National Supercomputing Mission (NSM)**.

The NSM is a joint initiative of the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)** and the Department of Science and Technology (DST).

Param Porul supercomputing facility is established under phase two of the national supercomputing mission to facilitate computational research.

About the Param Porul: The Param Porul is based on direct contact liquid cooling technology to obtain high-power usage effectiveness and thereby reducing the operational cost.

Multiple applications from various scientific domains such as Weather and Climate, Bioinformatics, Computational Chemistry, Molecular Dynamics, Material Sciences, Computational Fluid

Dynamics etc. have been installed on the system for the benefit of researchers.

The system is equipped with a mix of CPU nodes, GPU nodes, **high memory nodes**, **high throughput storage** and **high-performance** Infiniband interconnect to cater for the computing needs of various scientific and engineering applications.



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MISCELLANEOUS

STATUE OF UNITY IN 8 WONDERS OF SCO LIST



India's Statue of Unity has become a part of the '8 Wonders of SCO' list. The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation has included the Statue of Unity in its '8 Wonders of SCO' list.

The Statue of Unity is the statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the first Home Minister of independent India. The 182-meter tall statue is the **world's tallest statue located in Kevadia, Gujarat**. The statue was inaugurated on the 143rd birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in 2018.

Statue of Unity

The project for a statue of unity was first announced in the year 2010 and the construction of the statue started in October 2013.

The total construction cost of the statue of unity was 2700 crores and it was started by the company Larsen and Toubro. The statue of unity project was initiated by Narendra Modi to mark the beginning of his 10th year as the chief minister of Gujarat.

The **chief minister of Gujarat** was made the chairman of the **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Rashtriya Ekta trust** to execute and supervise the project.

LANDMARK JUDGEMENT OF ROE V. WADE



Recently, a leak by political journalism company Politico has revealed that, the US Supreme Court has decided to overturn Roe v. Wade, 1973 the court's landmark 1973 judgment that made abortion a

constitutional right.

In 1973, in the landmark **Roe vs Wade** judgment, the Supreme Court of the United States made the right to abortion a constitutional right, establishing a **benchmark for abortion laws across the world**.

In this case, the US Supreme Court struck down laws that made abortion illegal in several states and ruled that abortion would be allowed up to the point of foetal

viability, that is, the time after which a foetus can survive outside the womb.

Foetal viability was around 28 weeks (7 months) at the time of the Roe judgment, experts now agree that advances in medicine have brought the threshold down to **23 or 24 weeks (6 months or a little less)**.

1ST 'AMRIT SAROVAR' INAUGURATED IN INDIA

The first "Amrit Sarovar" in India was inaugurated on 13th May 2022 by Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, Union Minister for Minority Affairs and Swatantra Dev Singh, Uttar Pradesh Jal Shakti Minister at Patwai, Rampur, Uttar Pradesh.

This newly inaugurated "Amrit Sarovar" of Patwai will help to conserve water and protect the environment. It will also be a tourist attraction for the people staying in the nearby areas.

In this "Amrit Sarovar" boating and various other entertainment facilities are also available.

On 24th April 2022, Mission Amrit Sarovar was launched by PM Modi with the broad aim of water conservation for the future. By 15th August 2023, the Mission will be completed.

What is the objective of Mission Amrit Sarovar?

The aim of this mission is to develop and rejuvenate **75 water bodies** in each district of India as a part of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav celebration.

Under this mission, 50,000 water bodies will be created and each of these water bodies will be **an Acre or more in size**. Every individual Amrit Sarovar will have a 10,000 cubic meter water holding capacity.

52ND TIGER RESERVE IN INDIA

Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, **Bhupender Yadav** has announced that Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan has been notified as **Rajasthan's 4th and the 52nd tiger reserve of India**.



It will help to conserve biodiversity and bring ecotourism and development to the area.

The **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** had given in-principle approval to make **Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife Sanctuary** and adjoining areas as tiger reserves on July 5 last year.

Wild animals like Indian wolf, leopard, striped hyena, sloth bear, golden jackal, chinkara, nilgai and fox can be seen in the **Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve**.

According to the “**Status of Tigers in India**” report released in 2019, there are 2,967 tigers in 20 states across the country.

Other Three Tiger Reserves

Ranthambore Tiger Reserve (RTR) in Sawai Madhopur
Sariska Tiger Reserve (STR) in Alwar
Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve (MHTR) in Kota.

BIRD SANCTUARY OF TAMIL NADU

The **Nanjarayan Tank** is recently declared the **17th bird sanctuary of Tamil Nadu**.



Nanjarayan Tank is located on the outskirts of **Tirupur city** around 60 kilometers from **Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu**. It was built by King Nanjarayan as a source for irrigation. It is also known as **Sarkar Periyapalayam Reservoir**.

The undisturbed mudflats (sediment deposits) in the middle of the lake ensure a thriving ecosystem and also attract many birds. Pelicans, painted storks, coots, etc can be found here.

It is also a haven for migratory birds. In 2010, four bar-headed geese, one of the world's highest-flying birds from Europe were spotted in the tank. A flock of 14 ruddy shelducks that **breed in parts of Europe and Central Asia** was spotted in 2020.

The habitat of birds is getting destroyed. The mudflats were **damaged due to the de-silting work in 2015 done by the Public Works Department (PWD)** of the Tamil Nadu government.

Water pollution is also a major issue, as effluents from nearby dyeing units are released into the lake. Declaring the tank as a bird sanctuary may restore the habitat of birds. A conservation center, watchtowers, and butterfly garden are being planned.

REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN ARMED FORCES

Recently, **Captain Abhilasha Barak**, created history by becoming the **first woman officer to join the Army Aviation Corps as a Combat Aviator (pilot)**.

At present women are only given the responsibility of traffic control and ground duty in the **Aviation Department** but now **Abhilasha Barak** will take over the responsibility of the pilot.



Captain Barak has been assigned to the second flight of the **2072 Army Aviation Squadron** that operates the **Dhruv Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH)**.

While women officers in the Indian Air Force and the Indian Navy have been flying helicopters for long, **the Indian Army paved the way for women pilots in 2021** by starting the 'Army Aviation course'.

What is the Army Aviation Corps?

Army Aviation Corps is the component of the Indian Army which was established on 1st November, 1986. The **Army Aviation Corps is headed by a director-general** at the **Army headquarters in New Delhi**. It was immediately inducted into '**Operation Pawan**' which was a crucial test for the newly formed corps.

75TH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY IN GENEVA

Mansukh Mandaviya, the Minister of Health, emphasized the need of creating a robust global supply chain to provide fair access to vaccines and medicines.

The Minister, speaking at the 75th World Health Assembly in Geneva, advocated for simplifying WHO's vaccine and treatment approval procedures and strengthening WHO to establish a more robust global health security infrastructure.

Mr. Mandaviya reaffirmed **India's commitment to strengthening the global health security framework**.

India feels that this year's theme, **which connects peace and health, is contemporary and relevant** since there can be no sustainable development or universal health and wellness without peace, according to the Minister.

India also expressed its disappointment and worry at the latest **WHO exercise on all-cause excess mortality, in which country-specific genuine data was collected**.

India also expressed its disappointment and worry at the latest WHO exercise on all-cause excess mortality, which ignored country-specific accurate data released by the statutory body.

NEW MONKEY SPECIE NAMED AFTER 'SELA PASS'

A new **species of old-world monkey recorded from Arunachal Pradesh** has been named after Sela Pass, which is a strategic mountain pass at 13,700 ft above sea level, and the New Species has been named Sela Macaque.

It was identified and analysed by a team of experts from the **Zoological Survey of India (ZSI)** and the University of Calcutta. Sela is situated between Dirang and Tawang towns in western Arunachal Pradesh.

The phylogenetic analysis revealed that the Sela macaque was geographically separated from the **Arunachal macaque (Macaca munzala)** of Tawang district by Sela.



Phylogenetics relate to the evolutionary development and diversification of a species or group of organisms.

It was found to be genetically different from the other species of monkeys reported from this region. The study describes the **Sela macaque as genetically closer to the Arunachal macaque.**

The two have some similar physical characteristics such as **heavy-build shape and long dorsal body hair.** Both species have troops that either avoid proximity to humans or are used to human presence.

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Meet Our Mentors

We strongly endorse and believe in the fact that our faculty is our asset and one of the strong pillars of Success Mantra. This is the reason, we cherry-pick our faculties in order to fulfil the expectations of the students. Each of our faculty is the master of their subject, thus ensuring the best results across the industry.



Mahesh H Singh

Faculty - Constitutional Law (Polity)

I am a commerce graduate and belong to Mumbai. I have been teaching constitution and PSIR to Law and CSE aspirants for the last 4 years.

My role at Success Mantra is to mentor students to understand the constitution through flow charts and fine examples. I believe in 3 C's (i.e. CONTENT, CLARITY of topics and CONNECTION between students and teacher) are the key elements of effective teaching, what I ensure at success mantra.



Shivendra Pratik

Faculty - Logical Reasoning

I'm a Post Graduate Diploma in Management and a Gold Medalist in Finance and Banking. I have a comprehensive experience of around 8 years in the Corporate & Education industry. For the last 6 years, I have been teaching Logical Reasoning to various competitive entrance exam aspirants majorly CLAT, AILET, DU LLB, HM, BBA, Banking, UPSC, DSSSB etc.



Richa Jha

Faculty - Legal Aptitude

I am Advocate Richa Jha. I'm LLB, LLM from Law Faculty, University of Delhi. Law, as a subject, can be taught with the help of legal theories, their practices and applications which can be substantiated with the help of case studies.

I sincerely believe in imparting a legal education which a candidate can relate to his exam and could become a means to achieve success.



Ankit Jha

Faculty - General Knowledge | Service Aptitude

I'm a hospitality professional and a qualified manager. I've diversified experience of more than six years in different industries. I graduated from the prestigious IHM Pusa Delhi.

I mentor the aspirants of Success Mantra as a Faculty for General Awareness & Service Aptitude. I'm dedicated towards providing the best content in terms of quality & relevancy and always eager to assist the students.



Vipin Sharma

Faculty - Quantitative Techniques

I'm an MBA, LL.B. and B.Com (AMU). I have been in association with Success Mantra since 2013. Extensive knowledge of arithmetic mathematics, algebra, geometry, statistics and other areas of mathematics allows me to confidently explain concepts and processes to my students. My lesson plans engage students and help them feel confident in their mathematical abilities.



Deepak Chauchan

Faculty - English Language & Usage

I'm Deepak Chauhan. I'm PG in English. I've more than fifteen years of Experience including teaching experience of eight years. I'm committed to creating a classroom which is stimulating and highly motivated.

I'm highly professional and dedicated towards my work. I've created a huge library of competitive english which I share with my students as and when required. I've passion for English Language and my ultimate goal is to help my students to achieve their goal in life.

