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FOURTH WEEK

CURRENT AFFAIRS



DECEMBER 2022

DECEMBER 22-31

1. As per Finance Ministry's latest data, what is India's gross domestic product growth in the first half of 2022–23?

- A. 7.7%
- B. 8.7%
- C. 9.7% ☒
- D. 10.7%



- ✓ As per the Finance Ministry's latest data, India's gross domestic product growth in the first half of 2022–23 is averaged to 9.7%. This was announced in the Ministry's mid-year expenditure and revenue statement. The ministry said it could not present the medium-term expenditure framework (MTEF) as mandated by the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, as the global macro-economic situation disrupted the government's projections.

2. Which country is the host of special negotiation round on three of the four pillars of Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) in February 2023?

- A. USA
- B. India ☒
- C. France
- D. Germany



- ✓ India will host the next special negotiation round on three of the four pillars of the United States-led Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) on February 2023. IPEF has four pillars in all namely trade, supply chain, tax and anti-corruption and clean energy. During the first-ever in-person ministerial in September 2022, India decided to join only three pillars, and opted out of the trade pillar.

3. What is the total amount raised by the Government through disinvestment and strategic sale of PSEs since 2014?

- A. Rs 1.01 lakh crores
- B. Rs 2.02 lakh crores
- C. Rs 3.03 lakh crores
- D. Rs 4.04 lakh crores ☒



- ✓ The government has raised over Rs 4.04 lakh crore through disinvestment and strategic sale of public sector enterprises since 2014, the Finance Ministry said. The largest amount of over Rs 1.07 lakh crore was raised through offer for sale in 59 cases. This was followed by a stake sale through Exchange Traded Fund (ETF) in 10 tranches, amounting to Rs 98,949 crore. Strategic sales in 10 companies, including Air India, yielded Rs 69,412 crores. 17 CPSEs were listed since 2014–15, which yielded Rs 50,386 crore.

4. Which state/UT generated most number of jobs under the PMEGP scheme in the current fiscal year?

- A. Uttarakhand
- B. Jammu and Kashmir ☒
- C. Goa
- D. New Delhi



- ✓ **Jammu & Kashmir has generated the most number of jobs among all the states and UTs under the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) in the current fiscal year. The scheme by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) is implemented by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC). Since 2008, 62,808 jobs were created by 7,851 assisted projects in Jammu & Kashmir.**

5. Which institution released the '2022 in Nine Charts' report?

- A. World Economic Forum
- B. International Monetary Fund
- C. World Bank ☒
- D. Asian Development Bank



- ✓ **The World Bank released a report titled '2022 in Nine Charts', in which it said that the world is in its steepest slowdown since 1970 and 685 million people could be living in extreme poverty by the end of 2022. This would make 2022 the second-worst year for poverty reduction in the past two decades, after 2020.**

6. Which Union Ministry organised the Swar Dharohar festival?

- A. Ministry of Culture ☒
- B. Ministry of Tourism
- C. Ministry of MSME
- D. Ministry of Home Affairs



संस्कृति मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
CULTURE

- ✓ **Ministry of Culture, Government of India in collaboration with Swar Dharohar Foundation inaugurated "Swar Dharohar Festival" under Kalanjali. It is a Music, Art and Literature Festival which was organised to showcase the iconic art and culture of India and, the rich literary Art and Heritage of Indian States.**

7. Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh, who were in the news recently, are associated with which sports?

- A. Hockey
- B. Shooting ☒
- C. Squash
- D. Cricket



- ✓ Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh won the 10 metre air pistol mixed team title at the 65th National Shooting Championship Competitions. Karnataka's Divya TS and Imroz clinched silver while Punjab and ONGC shared the bronze medals. In the junior mixed team pistol, the gold was won by Uttar Pradesh's Anjali and Sagar after beating Uttarakhand's Yashasvi and Abhinav. Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh won the bronze medals.

8. Chaityabhoomi is the resting place of which leader?

- A. Dr B R Ambedkar ☒
- B. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- C. Rabindranath Tagore
- D. Jawaharlal Nehru



- ✓ Bharat Ratna Dr BR Ambedkar's 67th Mahaparinirvan Diwas is observed on December 6. Lakhs of followers from all over the country gathered at Chaityabhoomi in Dadar in Mumbai to pay tribute to the great leader. Chaitya Bhoomi is a Buddhist chaitya and the cremation place of B. R. Ambedkar, the 20th-century Indian intellectual and the chief architect of the Indian Constitution.

9. India's first gold ATM has been inaugurated in which city?

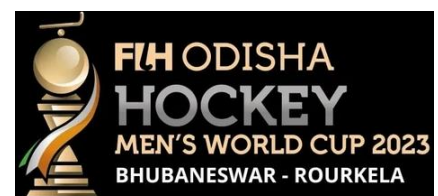
- A. Varanasi
- B. Hyderabad ☒
- C. Lucknow
- D. Cochin



- ✓ India's first gold ATM and world's first real time gold ATM has been launched in Hyderabad. The gold ATM enables customers to buy gold without going to a physical jewellery store. Goldsikka, a company that specialises in buying and selling of gold, introduced the ATM with technology support from a Hyderabad-based startup OpenCube. In the ATM, the buyer selects the price and gold worth the amount is released to the buyer.

10. Which state is the host of the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup 2023?

- A. Odisha ☒
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. West Bengal
- D. Karnataka



- ✓ The FIH Hockey Men's World Cup 2023 will be hosted by Odisha at Bhubaneswar-Rourkela from 13 January, 2023. Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched the trophy tour of the FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023. The trophy will travel across 13 states and one Union territory and then across all districts of the state.

1. Which Union Ministry organizes the AI Pe Charcha (AI Dialogue) event?

- A. Ministry of Electronics and IT ☒
- B. Ministry of Finance
- C. Ministry of Science and Technology
- D. Ministry of Corporate Affairs



- ✓ The National e-Governance Division (NeGD) under the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) organized an AI Pe Charcha (AI Dialogue). The panelists discussed the importance and approaches for enabling access to quality datasets for AI. The AI Pe Charcha series has been initiated as a part of Responsible AI for Social Empowerment (RAISE), India's first global AI summit organized by MeitY in 2020.

2. Which Union Ministry launched the Government e-Marketplace services (GeM) through Common Service Centres (CSC) and India Post?

- A. Ministry of Commerce and Industry ☒
- B. Ministry of Home Affairs
- C. Ministry of MSME
- D. Ministry of Finance



- ✓ Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal rolled out Government e-Marketplace services (GeM) through Common Service Centres (CSC) and India Post, Department of Post. The Minister also launched the Government e-Marketplace Seller Samvaad Booklet, which is a compilation of testimonials from sellers and service providers based on their experience on GeM portal.

3. Rock-cut Sculptures and Reliefs of the Unakoti, which was added in the UNESCO's tentative list of World Heritage Sites, are in which state?

- A. Gujarat
- B. Tripura ☒
- C. Telangana
- D. Odisha



- ✓ Two heritage sites from Gujarat — the Sun Temple at Modhera and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's hometown Vadnagar, a historic town were added to the tentative list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Rock-cut Sculptures and Reliefs of the Unakoti, Tripura were also added to the tentative list.

4. Which state/UT has recently granted Industry status to its tourism sector?

- A. Gujarat
- B. Assam ☒
- C. West Bengal
- D. Arunachal Pradesh



- ✓ 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. With this grant, restaurants, cafeterias, health clubs, spas and wellness centers, among others, in the state are eligible for incentives under the industrial policy.

5. Who has been appointed as the head of New Delhi International Arbitration Centre?

- A. Hemant Gupta ☒
- B. A K Sikri
- C. V V Ramana
- D. Ranjan Gogoi



- ✓ Former Supreme Court judge Hemant Gupta has been appointed as the chairperson of New Delhi International Arbitration Centre (NDIAC). The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the appointment of retired Justice Hemant Gupta as NDIAC chairperson and Ganesh Chandru and Anant Vijay Palli as its part-time members.

6. Which word has been chosen as the word of the year 2022 by the Oxford English Dictionary?

- A. I Stand With
- B. Goblin Mode ☒
- C. Gaslighting
- D. Moonlighting



- ✓ The Oxford English Dictionary recently unveiled the word of the year 2022 as 'Goblin mode', which was selected by public votes. According to Oxford University Press (OUP), it means 'a type of behaviour which is unapologetically self-indulgent, lazy, slovenly, or greedy, typically in a way that rejects social norms or expectations.' The term was first used in 2009 but went viral on social media earlier this year.

7. What is the rank of India in the global aviation safety ranking by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)?

- A. 48 ☒
- B. 52
- C. 75
- D. 105



- ✓ India has jumped to the 48th position in the global aviation safety ranking by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). The Indian aviation safety has scored the highest ever score of 85.49 per cent. In 2018, India was at the 102nd rank. In the ranking, Singapore is at the top, followed by the UAE and South Korea at the second and third positions.

8. Which country is the host of the '12th World Hindi Conference'?

- A. Italy
- B. Australia
- C. Israel
- D. Fiji ☒

हिन्दी

- ✓ The '12th World Hindi Conference' is being organized by the Ministry of External Affairs in collaboration with the Government of Fiji in February 2023 in Fiji. According to the Ministry of External Affairs, the main theme of the Conference is "Hindi: From Traditional Knowledge to Artificial Intelligence". Eleven World Hindi Conferences have been organized in various countries, so far.

9. Female umpires will officiate in which men's cricket tournament, for the first time in India?

- A. Ranji Trophy ☒
- B. Duleep Trophy
- C. Vijay Hazare Trophy
- D. Deodhar Trophy



- ✓ Three Female umpires will officiate in Ranji Trophy this season, for the first time in Indian cricket history. Vrinda Rathi, Janani Narayan and Gayathri Venugopalan will officiate in the Ranji Trophy. It will be the first for Indian cricket when female umpires are asked to officiate in the men's cricket matches. One of the umpires Gayathri has served as a fourth umpire in Ranji Trophy in the past.

10. Manisha Ramadass, who was seen in the news, plays which sports?

- A. Cricket
- B. Badminton ☒
- C. Weight Lifting
- D. Archery



- ✓ Indian shuttler Manisha Ramadass has been named the Badminton World Federation (BWF) female Para-Badminton Player of the Year. The World Champion in the SU5 section, Manisha Ramadass won 11 gold and five bronze medals overall in 2022. BWF Male Para-Badminton Player of the Year went to WH2 world champion and reigning Paralympic champion Daiki Kajiwara. Viktor Axelsen and Zheng Si Wei / Huang Ya Qiong won the BWF Player of the Year Awards.

1. Veer Guardian–2023 Exercise is a maiden bilateral air exercise set to be held between India and which country?

- A. China
- B. Japan ☒
- C. France
- D. Australia



- ✓ Indian Air Force (IAF) and Japanese Air Self Defence Force (JASDF) are set to hold their maiden bilateral air exercise, Veer Guardian 23. The exercise will be held at Hyakuri air base and Iruma air base in Japan in January 2023. It aims to promote mutual understanding and strengthen defence cooperation between the Air Forces.

2. Which type of cancer is caused by Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)?

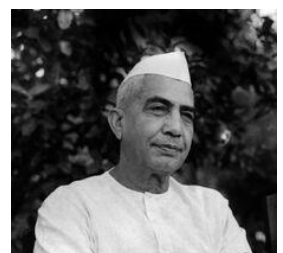
- A. Cervical Cancer ☒
- B. Breast Cancer
- C. Oral Cancer
- D. Prostate Cancer



- ✓ Most cervical cancers are associated with the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV). The HPV vaccine can prevent most cases of if the vaccine is given before girls or women are exposed to the virus. National Technical Advisory Group for Immunization (NTAGI) has recommended introduction of HPV Vaccine in the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) with for 9–14–year–old adolescent girls. The Centre has written to all States and UTs to create awareness on prevention of cervical cancer and the importance of HPV vaccine.

3. National Farmer's Day is observed to commemorate the birth anniversary of which leader?

- A. Atal Behari Vajpayee
- B. Jawaharlal Nehru
- C. Chaudhary Charan Singh ☒
- D. P V Narasimha Rao



- ✓ National Farmer's Day is being observed on December 23 to commemorate the birth anniversary of the fifth Prime Minister of India, Chaudhary Charan Singh, and his contributions towards the upliftment of farmers in the country. Various awareness campaigns and drives are organised across the country to educate people about the role of farmers and their contribution to the economy.

4. Which institution received approval from SEBI to set up Social Stock Exchange (SSE)?

- A. NITI Aayog
- B. State Bank of India
- C. National Stock Exchange ☒
- D. PFRDA



- ✓ **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) as a separate segment of the NSE. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, in her Union Budget speech of 2019–20, proposed the creation of a Social Stock Exchange, under the regulatory ambit of SEBI, for listing social enterprises and voluntary organisations.**

5. What is the aim of 'Jan Vishwas Bill', which was recently tabled in Lok Sabha?

- A. Anti-terrorism
- B. Ease of doing business ☒
- C. Eradication of Malnutrition
- D. Police Reforms



- ✓ **Commerce and industry Minister Piyush Goyal in Lok Sabha introduced Jan Vishwas Bill, which seeks to promote ease of business. The bill seeks to decriminalise minor offences by amending 183 provisions in 42 Acts. The Bill was later referred to a 31-member joint committee of Parliament for scrutiny. The bill will also help in reducing the burden on judiciary.**

6. Aditya Mittal, who was seen in the news, is associated with which sports?

- A. Cricket
- B. Chess ☒
- C. Badminton
- D. Hockey



- ✓ **Sixteen-year-old Aditya Mittal has recently become India's 77th chess Grandmaster. The Mumbai-based player crossed 2,500 ELO points mark during the sixth round of the ongoing Ellobregat Open tournament in Spain. Mittal is also the fifth Indian to achieve the GM title in 2022 after Bharath Subramaniam, Rahul Srivatshav, V Pranav and Pranav Anand.**

7. Which institution released the 'Global status of black soils' Report?

- A. UNEP
- B. FAO ☒
- C. UNFCCC
- D. UNHCR



- ✓ The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) released the 'Global status of black soils' Report on the occasion of World Soil Day, December 5, 2022. As per the report, Black soils, which feed the global population, are under threat, with most losing at least half of their soil organic carbon (SOC) stocks. As per the FAO, the reasons are Land–use change, unsustainable management practices and excessive use of agrochemicals.

8. Which city is the host of opening ceremony for the International Year of Millet– 2023 (IYM2023)?

- A. New Delhi
B. Rome ☒
C. Paris
D. Colombo



- ✓ The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations organized an opening ceremony for the International Year of Millets 2023 (IYM2023) in Rome, Italy. An Indian delegation led by Sushri Shobha Karandlaje, Minister of State, Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and other senior officials were present at the opening ceremony. Raising awareness to create 'Millet Mindfulness' is an important part of this movement.

9. Who has been appointed as the chair of B20 India, to lead the business agenda during India's G20 presidency?

- A. Kiran Mazumdar Shaw
B. N Chandrasekaran ☒
C. Uday Kotak
D. Ratan TATA



- ✓ Chairperson of the Tata Group, N Chandrasekaran was appointed the chair of B20 India, to lead the business agenda during India's G20 presidency. The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) is appointed as the B20 India Secretariat by the Centre to lead the B20 India process.

10. Arun Kumar Singh, former chairman of BPCL, has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of which organisation?

- A. PFC
B. ONGC ☒
C. SAIL
D. IOCL



- ✓ Arun Kumar Singh, former chairman of oil refining and marketing company BPCL, is appointed Chairman and Managing Director of ONGC. He will head the company for a three-year tenure with effect from the date of assumption of charge. He retired as the BPCL head 13 months later in October 2022.

1. iNOVACC, which was approved as an intra-nasal booster dose for COVID, is manufactured by which institution?

- A. Serum Institute of India
- B. Biological E Ltd
- C. Bharat Biotech ☒
- D. Biocon



- ✓ The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has approved Bharat Biotech's intranasal Covid vaccine as a booster dose for those above 18 years of age. India's first intranasal Covid vaccine iNOVACC will be added to the CoWin app, which is a web platform for vaccination registration in the country. At present, only Bharat Biotech's Covaxin, Serum Institute's Covishield and Covovax, Russian Sputnik V and Biological E Ltd's Corbevax are listed in the CoWin portal.

2. Which institution won the DSCI AISS Award for 'Best Security Practices in Government Sector'?

- A. Indian Railways
- B. UIDAI ☒
- C. ISRO
- D. NASSCOM



- ✓ The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has bagged a top data security award for best practices in the government sector. Data Security Council of India (DSCI) is a not-for-profit industry body on data protection in India, setup by NASSCOM. DSCI awarded UIDAI for its significant role in securing 'Aadhaar' infrastructure that provides digital identity-based welfare services to residents.

3. International Finance Corporation has extended a USD 400 million loan to which company in India?

- A. SBI
- B. Can Fin Homes
- C. HDFC ☒
- D. LIC Housing Finance



- ✓ The International Finance Corporation (IFC) has extended a USD 400-million loan to mortgage company HDFC for financing green affordable housing units. The loan will help close the urban housing gap and improve access to climate-smart affordable homes by boosting green housing, creating jobs and ensuring long-term business growth.

4. Who has been named as the captain of the Indian squad for the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup 2023?

- A. Harmanpreet Singh ☒
- B. P R Sreejesh
- C. Amit Rohidas
- D. Rupinder Pal Singh



- ✓ Harmanpreet Singh was named the captain of the 18-member Indian squad for the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup. Hockey India announced the squad for the FIH men's World Cup scheduled from January 13 to 29, 2023 in Bhubaneswar–Rourkela, Odisha. Amit Rohidas will be his deputy for the event. The Men in Blue will play its opening game against Spain at the newly built Birsamunda Stadium in Rourkela.

5. Which country supplies S-400 air defence missile system to India?

- A. USA
B. Israel
C. Russia ☒
D. France



- ✓ Russia will begin supplying India with the third squadron of the S-400 air defence missile system in January or February of next year. India has already deployed its first two missile system squadrons to patrol the Ladakh sector, West Bengal's Chicken's Neck Corridor and the entire north-eastern region. India and Russia have agreed to a three-year ₹35,000 crore deal to buy five squadrons of S-400 air defence missiles.

6. Anish Thoppani, who was seen in the news, plays which sports?

- A. Cricket
B. Chess
C. Badminton ☒
D. Hockey



- ✓ Indian shuttler Anish Thoppani clinches silver medal in U-15 category at Badminton Asia Junior Championships, in Nonthaburi, Thailand. Anish lost the men's singles final against Chinese Taipei's Chung-Hsiang Yih to settle for silver. India's under-17 men's duo Arsh Mohammad and Sanskar Srastwat secured a silver medal.

7. Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Indian Botanic Garden, which was seen in the news, is located in which state?

- A. West Bengal ☒
B. Andhra Pradesh
C. Himachal Pradesh
D. Madhya Pradesh



- ✓ India's largest botanical garden, Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Indian Botanic Garden in Howrah, West Bengal, is under threat due to severe land erosion by Ganga River. During a recent site visit, experts warned that parts of the fencing and inner plantation may get washed away by the swelling river. The garden is under the jurisdiction of the Botanical Survey of India (BSI).

8. Which Indian-origin veteran has been appointed as the Chief Operating Officer of Federal Reserve Bank of New York?

- A. Sushmita Shukla ☒
- B. Indra Nooyi
- C. Preeti Sudan
- D. Gita Gopinath



- ✓ **Sushmita Shukla, Indian-origin veteran of the insurance industry, has been appointed as First Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. The appointment was approved by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System of New York. She has been appointed as First Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, effective March 2023**

9. Which city corporation launched the World Bank's flagship Gender Toolkit?

- A. Mumbai
- B. Chennai ☒
- C. Kolkata
- D. New Delhi



- ✓ **A Gender Toolkit based on 'Enabling gender responsive urban mobility and public spaces' was launched by Greater Chennai Corporation. The toolkit was launched at a session conducted by the World Bank and the Chennai Urban Metropolitan Transport Authority. It aims to highlight the gender issues surrounding mobility and city design.**

10. When is the 'International Anti-Corruption Day' observed?

- A. December.09 ☒
- B. December.11
- C. December.15
- D. December.26



- ✓ **International Anti-Corruption Day is observed on 9 December, with the theme of 'Uniting the World against Corruption'. The 2022 International Anti-Corruption Day (IACD) seeks to highlight the crucial link between anti-corruption and peace, security, and development. It also marks the start of twentieth anniversary of the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC).**

1. Pushpa Kamal Dahal also known as 'Prachanda' has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of which country?

- A. Bangladesh
- B. Nepal ☒
- C. Maldives
- D. Mauritius



- ✓ **Nepal President Bidya Devi Bhandari appointed CPN–Maoist Centre chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' as the new Prime Minister of Nepal. Prachanda has been appointed as the Prime Minister of Nepal as per the Article 76 Clause 2 of the Constitution. There has been an understanding between Prachanda and Oli to lead the government on rotation basis.**

2. Emperor penguins, which were seen in the news, are native to which region/ country?

- A. Antarctica ☒
- B. Australia
- C. Greenland
- D. Iceland



- ✓ **As per new research, two-thirds of Antarctica's native species, including emperor penguins, are under threat of extinction or major population declines by 2100. This is due to current trajectories of global heating. The study was conducted by scientists, conservationists and policymakers from 12 countries. It has identified emperor penguins as the Antarctic species at greatest risk of extinction, followed by other seabirds and dry soil nematodes.**

3. Union Minister Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated Sports Science Centre in which city?

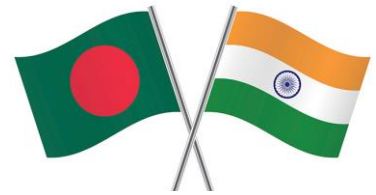
- A. Pune
- B. Amravati
- C. Udupi ☒
- D. Varanasi



- ✓ **Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated the Sports Science Centre in Udupi. This Sports Science Centre will bring together sports scientists and athletes. The Government has spent 2700 crore rupees to enhance sporting infrastructure as well as 3,136 crore rupees for Khelo India Games, for a period of five years.**

4. India has agreed to start negotiations for a free trade agreement with which neighbouring country?

- A. China
- B. Sri Lanka
- C. Bangladesh ☒
- D. Nepal



- ✓ India and Bangladesh agreed to start negotiations for a free trade agreement (FTA) at an early date. The decision was taken in a meeting between Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal and his Bangladeshi counterpart Tipu Munshi. A joint feasibility study on the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), has been carried out after the two countries agreed to explore the possibility of negotiating a trade pact. The bilateral trade between India and Bangladesh increased to USD 18.2 billion in 2021–22.

5. Which institution has set up 'Central Excise and Service Tax Settlement Commission'?

- A. SEBI
- B. CBIC ☒
- C. CBDT
- D. Enforcement Directorate



- ✓ The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has constituted Customs, Central Excise and Service Tax Settlement Commission. It aims to resolve and settle the show-cause notices issued under the Customs Act, Central Excise Act and Service Tax regime. This move would ensure speedy disposal of cases under the old indirect tax regime.

6. Which state launched the 'Sanitation Workers Development Scheme'?

- A. Tamil Nadu ☒
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Kerala
- D. Nagaland



- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin launched sanitation workers' development programme across the state and distributed safety equipment. A survey will be carried out to identify sanitation workers and details will be uploaded on a mobile application. In the first phase, the scheme will be implemented in five urban local bodies and will be extended to all other local bodies.

7. The New and Renewable Energy Ministry extended the rooftop solar programme till which year?

- A. 2024
- B. 2025
- C. 2026 ☒
- D. 2027



- ✓ The Union Ministry of new and renewable energy extended the rooftop solar programme till March 31, 2026. With this, subsidy under the programme will be available until the target for the scheme is achieved. All residential consumers are advised not to pay any additional charges to any vendor on account of fee for application on the National Portal or any additional charges for net-metering or testing.

8. Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu was sworn in as the Chief Minister of which state?

- A. Goa
B. Gujarat
C. Himachal Pradesh ☒
D. Uttarakhand



- ✓ Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has recently sworn in as the next Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh. He was a four-time MLA and chairman of the Congress' state election campaign committee. Mukesh Agnihotri has been selected as the deputy chief minister. The Indian National Congress party won the Himachal Pradesh state assembly elections.

9. As per the Union Jal Shakti Ministry, how many River-linking components have been identified?

- A. 10
B. 20
C. 30 ☒
D. 50

30

- ✓ The Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat said in Lok Sabha that 30 River-linking components have been identified. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) under the Ministry of Jal Shakti identified 16 links under peninsular rivers component and 14 links under Himalayan component of National Perspective Plan (NPP) for inter basin transfer. Ken-Betwa River link project has been approved with estimated cost of ₹44,605 crore with central support of ₹39,317 crore.

10. Who is the new Chief Minister of Gujarat, after the 2022 assembly elections?

- A. Bhupendra Patel ☒
B. Vijay Rupani
C. Anandiben Patel
D. Keshubhai Patel



- ✓ Bhupendra Patel will continue as the Chief Minister of Gujarat for a second straight term, after the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) wins in the state assembly elections. The newly-elected Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLAs elected Bhupendra Patel as the leader of the legislative party.

1. What is the name of new scheme announced under station redevelopment drive of Ministry of Railways?

- A. Atmarirbhar Bharat Station Scheme
- B. Amrit Bharat Station Scheme ☒
- C. Bharat Rail Station Scheme
- D. Atal Station Scheme



- ✓ The Ministry of Railways has formulated a new scheme to modernise over 1,000 small stations over the coming years. Amrit Bharat Station Scheme is a part of its station redevelopment drive. The key features of the proposed stations include provisions for roof top plazas, longer platforms, ballast-less tracks, and 5G connectivity.

2. Home Affairs Ministry and which state signed cessation of operations agreement with ZUF armed group?

- A. Manipur ☒
- B. Assam
- C. Arunachal Pradesh
- D. Sikkim



- ✓ The Union government and the Manipur government have signed a cessation of operations agreement with the Zeliangrong United Front (ZUF). ZUF is a Manipur-based Naga armed group, which has been demanding a separate State for the Zeliangrong Naga tribe. The agreement seeks rehabilitation and re-settlement of the armed cadres.

3. Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Power Project, which was seen in the news, was handed over by India to which country?

- A. Nepal
- B. Bangladesh
- C. Bhutan ☒
- D. Maldives



- ✓ India-assisted 720 Megawatts Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Power Project has been recently handed to Druk Green Power Corporation (DGPC) in Bhutan. With this project, India and Bhutan have successfully completed four mega hydroelectric power projects. The commissioning of the project has increased Bhutan's Electrical Power Generation Capacity by 44 per cent.

4. Which Union Ministry launched the 'City Finance Rankings 2022'?

- A. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs ☒
- B. Ministry of Finance
- C. Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- D. Ministry of MSME



- ✓ Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs has recently released the draft guidelines for a new ranking system of cities based on their financial performance and beautification. The 'City Finance Rankings 2022' aims to evaluate and reward urban local bodies on the basis of their strength across resource mobilisation, expenditure performance and fiscal governance systems. The 'City Beauty Competition' initiative aims to recognise efforts made by the cities and wards towards creating beautiful, innovative and inclusive public spaces.

5. The 'National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS)' is an initiative of which Union Ministry?

- A. Ministry of Rural Development ☒
- B. Ministry of Housing and Urban Development
- C. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- D. Ministry of Defence



- ✓ National Mobile Monitoring Software (NMMS) App was launched by the Ministry of Rural Development in 2021. Digitally capturing the attendance of workers employed under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) has been made universal from January 1, 2023. The attendance is captured through National Mobile Monitoring Software (NMMS) mobile application.

6. Which institution developed an 'Ocean Wave Energy Converter' that can generate electricity from sea waves?

- A. IIT Madras ☒
- B. IIT Bombay
- C. IIT Delhi
- D. NIT Warangal



- ✓ Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) Researchers have developed an 'Ocean Wave Energy Converter' that can generate electricity from sea waves. The Device was deployed at a location about 6 KM off the coast of Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu. The device targets generating 1MW of power from ocean waves in the next three years.

7. Hakuto-R lander is the first-ever moon Mission of which country?

- A. South Korea
- B. Japan ☒
- C. Singapore
- D. UAE



- ✓ A Japanese start-up ispace Inc launched the country's first-ever Moon mission with the help of SpaceX. A Japanese lunar lander carrying two rovers and payload lifted off via a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket. It also became the first commercial spacecraft to land on the moon. The launch of Hakuto-R lander was originally scheduled for late November 2022.

8. What is the short code of the 24x7 Multilingual Tourist Info–Helpline set up by the Ministry of Tourism?

- A. 1091
- B. 1098
- C. 1363 ☒
- D. 1585



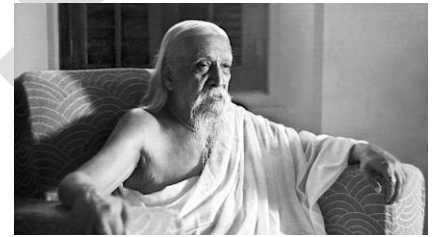
पर्यटन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
TOURISM

सत्यमेव जयते

- ✓ The Ministry of Tourism has set up a 24x7 Multi–Lingual Tourist Info–Helpline on the toll free number 1800111363 or on a short code 1363. The helpline has been set up in 12 Languages including 10 international languages (German, French, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Arabic), Hindi and English for domestic and foreign tourists to provide information relating to Travel in India and guidance to tourists in distress while travelling in India.

9. Prime Minister released a commemorative coin and stamp on which leader's 150th birth anniversary on 13th December at Puducherry?

- A. 'Mahakavi' Subramanya Bharathiyar
- B. Sri Aurobindo ☒
- C. Gopala Krishna Gokhale
- D. Annie Besant



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually participated in a programme commemorating Sri Aurobindo's 150th birth anniversary, on 13th December. The programme is being held in Kamban Kalai Sangam, Puducherry, under the aegis of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. The Prime Minister also released a commemorative coin and postal stamp in honour of Sri Aurobindo. He was an Indian nationalist and editor of newspapers such as Vande Mataram. He later became a spiritual reformer and established Aurobindo Ashram in Puducherry.

10. Which country has the highest number of broadband users, as of December 2022?

- A. China
- B. USA
- C. India ☒
- D. Indonesia



- ✓ The Minister of State for Electronics & Information Technology Rajeev Chandrasekhar announced that India is the largest connected nation in the world today with more than 800 million broadband users. The announcement was made during 'India Internet Governance Forum 2022', held on the theme 'Leveraging Techade for Empowering Bharat'. It is an initiative associated with the UN Internet Governance Forum (UN–IGF).

1. Which institution has been named as 'G20 Science working group's secretariat'?

- A. IIT Madras
- B. IIT Bombay
- C. IIT Delhi
- D. IISc Bengaluru ☒



- ✓ The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) has been named as the secretariat for science 20 (S20), one of the G20's groupings. The G20 is being presided over by India and the theme of the S20 in 2023 is 'Disruptive Science for Innovative and Sustainable Development'. Discussions will take place throughout the year in various regions of India.

2. India signed USD 125 million loan deal with which institution to improve urban services in Tamil Nadu?

- A. Asian Development Bank ☒
- B. Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
- C. World Bank
- D. World Economic Forum



- ✓ The Government of India and Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a USD 125 million loan to improve urban services in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu Urban Flagship Investment Program seeks to develop climate-resilient sewage collection and treatment, and drainage and water supply systems in three cities in the state. This is the third and the last tranche of the USD 500 million multi-tranche financing facility (MFF) for the Program approved by ADB in 2018.

3. Which Union Ministry has been approved as the nodal ministry for matters relating to online gaming?

- A. Ministry of Electronics and IT ☒
- B. Ministry of Finance
- C. Ministry of Science and Technology
- D. Ministry of Home Affairs



- ✓ The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has been appointed as the nodal ministry for matters relating to online gaming with monetary risks. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) has been tasked with regulating esports (video games not involving money). India's gaming market is currently estimated at USD 2.6 billion and expected to be worth USD 8.6 billion by 2027.

4. What is the name of the digital project funded by Google to map the language diversity of India?

- A. Project Bharat
- B. Project Vaani ☒
- C. Project Kalaimagal
- D. Project Inimai



- ✓ The Indian Institute of Sciences (IISc), ARTPARK (AI and Robotics Technology Park) and Google have partnered together for 'Project Vaani' Initiative. The digital project aims to map the language diversity of India by collecting speech sets of about a million people across 773 districts. The project aims to record over 150,000 hours of speech, part of which will be transcribed in local scripts. The goal is to boost development of automatic speech recognition, speech to speech translation and natural language understanding.

5. 'Daksh' is the payments fraud reporting module maintained by which institution?

- A. SEBI
B. NITI Aayog
C. Reserve Bank of India ☒
D. State Bank of India



भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक
RESERVE BANK OF INDIA

- ✓ Daksh is the advanced supervisory management system maintained by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). RBI recently announced that it is migrating the payments fraud reporting module to Daksh on January 1, 2023. The move aims to streamline reporting, enhance efficiency and automate the payments fraud management process.

6. India's sixth Vande Bharat train was inaugurated between Nagpur and which city?

- A. Bilaspur ☒
B. Madurai
C. Bhopal
D. Bengaluru



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off India's sixth Vande Bharat Express between Bilaspur (Chattisgarh)–Nagpur (Maharashtra) route. It will be operated by the Southeast Central Railways (SECR). The Vande Bharat Express can run up to a maximum speed of 160 kmph and has travel classes with better passenger amenities. The Prime Minister also launched phase-I of the Nagpur Metro.

7. Who has been selected as the first woman president of Indian Olympic Association (IOA)?

- A. Mary Kom
B. P T Usha ☒
C. Anju Bobby George
D. Karnam Malleswari



- ✓ Legendary athlete PT Usha was elected as the first woman president of Indian Olympic Association (IOA). She is a multiple Asian Games gold medalist and fourth place finisher in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics 400m hurdles final. The 58-year-old athlete was declared elected unopposed for the top post in the polls. The elections were held under the supervision of Supreme Court-appointed

retired SC judge L Nageswara Rao. She became the first Olympian and first international medallist to head the IOA in its 95-year history.

8. Which state organised the 'Muziris Biennale' art event?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala ☒
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Odisha



- ✓ Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated the fifth edition of Kochi Muziris Biennale. The Biennale will be hosted on the theme 'In Our Views Flow Ink and Fire'. The four-month-long celebration of art is scheduled to see several discussions, performances and film screenings. The biennale showcases more than 200 main artworks of 90 artists from about 40 different countries.

9. What is the target of India in reducing carbon intensity by 2030?

- A. 20%
- B. 45% ☒
- C. 55%
- D. 95%



- ✓ The Rajya Sabha passed the Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill, to mandate non-fossil sources of energy and establish a domestic carbon market in India. This will help India achieve its target of reducing India's carbon intensity by 45 per cent by 2030. This goal is part of India's updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC).

10. Who has been conferred with the Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswathi National Eminence Award (SIES)?

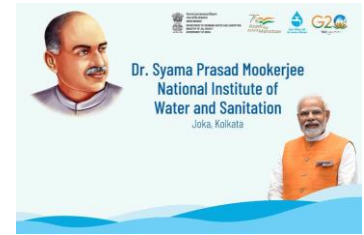
- A. Narendra Modi
- B. Rajnath Singh
- C. M Venkaiah ☒
- D. Piyush Goyal



- ✓ Former Vice President Venkaiah Naidu has been conferred with the 25th Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswathi National Eminence Award (SIES). Awardees in other categories include the Governor of Kerala Arif Mohammed Khan, industrialist Ratan Tata, cardiologist and Padma Vibhushan awardee Dr Marthanda Varma Sankaran Valianathan, Scientific Advisor to the Government of India Ajay Sood and famous Harikatha artiste Vishakha Hari.

1. 'Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee – National Institute of Water and Sanitation (DSPM – NIWAS)' has been inaugurated in which state?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. West Bengal ☒
- C. Telangana
- D. Karnataka



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually laid foundation stone and projects worth more than ₹7,800 crore in West Bengal. He also virtually inaugurated Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee – National Institute of Water and Sanitation (DSPM – NIWAS). It will serve as an apex body in the country on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in the country, serving as a hub of information and knowledge for Central, State and local governments.

2. Election Commission of India has developed a prototype of a remote electronic voting machine (RVM) for which category of people?

- A. Non Resident Indians
- B. Domestic Migrant Workers ☒
- C. Elderly citizens above 80 years
- D. Persons with Disabilities



- ✓ The Election Commission of India has developed a prototype of a remote electronic voting machine (RVM) for domestic migrant workers. It has invited political parties for a demonstration. If implemented, migrant voters do not need to travel to their home district to exercise their franchise and this will be a major move to increase voter participation.

3. Which state commenced India's first Nilgiri Tahr project?

- A. Tamil Nadu ☒
- B. Kerala
- C. Odisha
- D. Karnataka



- ✓ Tamil Nadu government has issued orders to conserve the Nilgiri tahr, the state animal, at a cost of Rs 25.14 crore. This is regarded as the first Nilgiri Tahr conservation project in the country. The project would be implemented during a 5-year period from 2022–2027, and follow a strategy including synchronised surveys to estimate numbers of the tahrs. The tahr is an endangered species and is protected under Schedule–I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act of India, 1972.

4. Which Indian Armed Force successfully test-fired the extended-range version of BrahMos Air-Launched missile?

- A. Indian Army
- B. Indian Navy
- C. Indian Air Force ☒
- D. Indian Coast Guard



- ✓ **Indian Air Force (IAF) successfully test-fired the extended-range version of BrahMos Air-Launched missile. It was test fired against a ship target from a frontline SU-30MKI aircraft. The maiden test of the extended range of the Brahmos Air Launched missile was conducted on May 12. BrahMos missiles are designed, developed and produced by BrahMos Aerospace, a joint venture company set up by India's DRDO and Russia's Mashinostroyeniya.**

5. The Indian Army has handed over first-ever 3D printed houses for soldiers at which city?

- A. Leh
- B. Ahmedabad ☒
- C. Jaisalmer
- D. Tawang



- ✓ **The Indian Army has offered the first 3D printed houses for soldiers at Ahmedabad Cantt. They are constructed by the Military Engineering Services (MES) in collaboration with MiCoB Pvt Ltd. The dwelling unit, with a ground floor plus one configuration are not only cheap but can be constructed in less time. Construction work of the dwelling unit with garage space and first floor was completed in 12 weeks.**

6. The SAARC Charter was adopted in which city on December 8, 1985?

- A. New Delhi
- B. Dhaka ☒
- C. Kathmandu
- D. Colombo



S A A R C
SOUTH ASIAN ASSOCIATION
FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION

- ✓ **The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) 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. This year also marks the 38th Anniversary of the regional group. SAARC has organised 18 summits since 1985.**

7. Which language Day is observed on 18 December?

- A. French
- B. Greek
- C. Arabic ☒
- D. Urdu

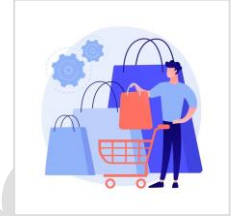
العربية

- ✓ **World Arabic Language Day is observed on 18 December to honour the language, which is spoken by over 400 million people globally. It has been celebrated since 2012 to mark the adoption of**

Arabic as the sixth official language of the United Nations by the UN General Assembly. This year, the theme of the World Arabic Language Day is "The Contribution of the Arabic Language to Human Civilization and Culture".

8. When is the 'National Consumer Rights Day' observed across India?

- A. December.20
- B. December.22
- C. December.24 ☒
- D. December.25



- ✓ December 24 is celebrated annually across India as National Consumer Rights Day. It is also called National Consumer Day. The Day commemorates December 24, 1986, the date when the Consumer Protection Act received assent of the President of India. The purpose of the day is to make consumers aware of their rights and responsibilities. World Consumer Rights Day is celebrated annually on March 15.

9. When is the International Migrants Day observed?

- A. December.18 ☒
- B. December.21
- C. December.24
- D. December.27



- ✓ The International Migrant Day is observed every year on December 18, to tackle the problem and challenges of global migration. The United Nations General Assembly in the year 1999 created the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families. The theme for the year 2022 is "Integrating migrants into primary health care".

10. NTPC commissioned 150 MW & 90 MW Devikot Solar PV Projects in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Gujarat
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Rajasthan ☒



- ✓ NTPC has commissioned capacities of 150 MW & 90 MW Devikot Solar PV Projects at Jaisalmer in Rajasthan. They are declared on Commercial Operation. With this, standalone installed and commercial capacity of NTPC has become 58041 MW, while group installed and commercial capacity of NTPC has reached 70656 MW.