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INTERNATIONAL

1) 20th Dhaka International Film Festival

The 20th Dhaka International Film Festival begins at Dhaka, Bangladesh. The festival will showcase 225 films from 70 countries under 10 categories will be screened across various venues in Dhaka. The DIFF will also organise the 8th edition of the 'Women in Cinema' international conference.

2) Philippines to purchase BrahMos Shore-Based cruise Missile System

Philippines has become the first foreign country to place an order for the purchase of the BrahMos Shore-Based cruise Missile System for its navy. This agreement will give a big boost to India's defence manufacturing system. The estimated deal cost is worth \$374,9 million.

3) India has announced financial assistance to Sri Lanka

India has announced financial assistance of USD 900 million loans to Sri Lanka to help the island nation in building up its depleted foreign reserves and for food imports. These comprise deferment of Asian Clearing Union settlement of over USD 509 million and currency swap of USD 400 million.

4) "The Global Risks Report 2022: 17th Edition"

World Economic Forum released the report titled "The Global Risks Report 2022: 17th Edition" prepared in partnership with Marsh McLennan, SK Group and Zurich Insurance Group. The report states that Widespread Youth disillusionment and digital inequality are among the top 5 risks for India.

NATIONAL

1) 'North East on Wheels Expedition'

Minister of State for Culture, Meenakshi Lekhi has launched the 'North East on Wheels Expedition' in New Delhi to promote the Culture of Northeastern States. The expedition will also promote the Dekho Apna Desh initiative of the Ministry of Tourism.

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

1) Indifi Technologies has collaborated with Google Pay

Small businesses-focused online lending platform Indifi Technologies has collaborated with Google Pay to provide instant loans to eligible medium, small and micro enterprises (MSMEs) merchants through the Google Pay platform. The borrowing process is entirely digital and eligible merchants on the Google Pay.





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2) Paytm - largest and fastest-growing UPI beneficiary bank in India

Paytm Payments Bank Ltd became the largest and fastest-growing UPI beneficiary bank in India. It becomes the first beneficiary bank in the country to achieve the landmark of over 926 million UPI transactions in a single month. Beneficiary banks are the banks of the account holder who is receiving money.

3) Foreign exchange reserves of India declined by \$878 million

Reserve Bank of India data, the foreign exchange reserves of India declined by \$878 million to USD 632.736 billion in the week ended January 7, 2022. In the previous week ended December 31, India's reserves dropped by \$1.466 billion to \$633.614 billion.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

1) José Daniel Ortega Saavedra

Nicaraguan President José Daniel Ortega Saavedra, leader of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN), was sworn in for a new presidential term. This marks his 5th term and 4th consecutive term as the President of Nicaragua. He will remain in the office until January 2027.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1) Global Women's Health Tech Awards

NIRAMAI Health Analytix Pvt Ltd, and InnAccel Technologies Pvt Ltd have received World Bank Group and Consumer Technology Association's Global Women's Health Tech Awards. The award recognizes innovative startups that leverage tech to improve women's health and safety.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1) Army Day in India

The Army Day in India is celebrated on 15th January every year, to salute the valiant soldiers who sacrificed their lives to protect the country and its citizens. This year marks the 74th Indian Army Day.

OBITUARY

1) Toshiki Kaifu

The former Prime Minister of Japan, Toshiki Kaifu passed away at the age of 91 years in Japan. He served as the PM from 1989 to 1991. He is known for sending the Maritime Self-Defense Force to the Persian Gulf in 1991.