

# 21st February 2023

#### **INTERNATIONAL**

- 1) India-Egypt Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism
- India has been collaborating with numerous countries and organizations to counter global terrorism at various levels.
- Egypt is one such country with whom India has constantly worked to combat terrorism. The third meeting of the India-Egypt Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism was conducted on February 16, 2023, in New Delhi.
- 2) Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales
- The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the signing of Memorandum of Understanding between the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) and The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales (ICAEW).



#### **NATIONAL**

- 1) Bank of Maharashtra has emerged as the top performer
- Bank of Maharashtra has emerged as the top performer among state-owned lenders in terms of loan growth percentage during the third quarter of 2022-23, an analysis of the latest financial results of public sector banks showed.
- The Pune-based lender recorded a 21.67 per cent increase in gross advances on a year-on-year basis, according to the latest quarterly numbers of the public sector bank (PSB).
- 2) First nuclear power plant in North India















- The first nuclear power plant in North India would be built in Gorakhpur, Haryana, according to Union Minister Jitendra Singh.
- He claimed that one of the major accomplishments under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership would be the installation of nuclear and atomic energy plants across the nation, which had previously been largely restricted to states in the south like Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh as well as western Maharashtra.

## 3) India's late Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat

- In the commemoration of India's late Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat, a bell has been placed at Nepal's revered Shree Muktinath Temple.
- The bell named "Bipin Bell," has been installed at the revered Hindu temple in Mustang district during the visit of four former Indian army chiefs namely Gen VN Sharma, Gen JJ Singh, Gen Deepak Kapoor and Gen Dalbir Suhag.



# 4) 190th Meeting of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation

- The 190th Meeting of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation was held in Chandigarh under the chairmanship of Shri Bhupender Yadav, Union Minister for Labor & Employment and Environment, Forest, and Climate Change.
- Shri Rameswar Teli, Minister of State for Labor & Employment, Petroleum & Natural Gas, was present at the meeting as well.

# 5) Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihood Mission

- Ministry of Rural Development signed an MoU between the ministry and Meesho an e-commerce platform owned by Bengaluru-based Fashnear Technologies Private Limited.
- As per the agreement, the e-commerce platform will help in the marketing of products made by the Self-Help Groups under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana National Rural Livelihood Mission.















- Rural Development Minister Giriraj Singh informed that when Prime Minister Narendra Modi took charge, there were 2.35 crore SHG members, but with a focused approach to empower rural poor women in the last 9 years, the number of SHG members has expanded to more than 9 crores and will touch 10 crores by 2024.

# 6) Chandrayaan-3 has successfully underwent EMI-EMC

- India's lunar mission, Chandrayaan-3 has successfully underwent EMI-EMC (Electro-Magnetic Interference/ Electro-Magnetic Compatibility).
- The EMI-EMC test is conducted for satellite missions to ensure functionality of the satellite subsystems in the space environment and their compatibility with the expected electromagnetic levels.
- The test was conducted between January 31 and February 2 at U R Rao Satellite Centre, Bengaluru.



# 7) The world's highest altitude weather station was destroyed due to hurricane-force winds

- The world's highest altitude weather station was destroyed due to hurricane-force winds on Mount Everest and a team of scientists and Sherpa have again placed its new version atop Mount Everest.
- The group has been led by a 31-year-old electrician and mountain guide Tenzing Gyalzen Sherpa. According to the Guinness World Records report, the team of mountaineers and scientists has installed a record-breaking weather station at an altitude of 8,810 meters just 39 meters (128 ft) below Everest's summit.

#### **STATE NEWS**

# 1) 49th Khajuraho Dance Festival

- The seven-day 49th Khajuraho Dance Festival will begin with Bharatnatyam and kathak at the temple declared as UNESCO heritage.





















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- The annual event of the Khajuraho Dance Festival is being organized by Ustad Allauddin Khan Sangeet Evam Kala Akademi and the directorate of culture in association with the tourism department and the Archaeological Survey of India.
- Bharatanatyam dance will be presented by Janki Rangarajan, whereas Kathak-Bharatnatyam will be presented by Dhirendra Tiwari, Aprajita Sharma, and Kathak by Prachi Shah respectively.

## 2) Statehood Day in Arunachal Pradesh

- Statehood Day in Arunachal Pradesh is a state holiday observed on 20th February in the Northeastern Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh.
- Statehood Day in Arunachal Pradesh is celebrated to commemorate the granting of statehood to the state which occurred in the year 1987.
- Arunachal Pradesh holds a key position in the whole northeastern Indian states, as it served as the general name of the whole region before its statehood. It is full of mountains and situated close to the Himalayas. Arunachal Pradesh shares its international border with China, Myanmar, and Bhutan.



#### 3) Dr APJ Abdul Kalam International Foundation and Space Zone India

- The Martin Foundation in association with Dr APJ Abdul Kalam International Foundation and Space Zone India launched the APJ Abdul Kalam Satellite Launch Vehicle Mission-2023 from the Pattipolam village of Chengalpattu district in Tamil Nadu.
- Telangana Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan was also present at the event.

## **APPOINTMENTS AND RESGINATIONS**

1) IAS officer BVR Subrahmanyam













- Former IAS officer BVR Subrahmanyam was appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer of Niti Aayog. The former Commerce Secretary takes over from Parameswaran lyer, who has been named as the Executive Director of World Bank.
- Subrahmanyam will take over from current CEO Parameswaran Iyer who will join World Bank as executive director in Washington DC.
- Subrahmanyam's appointment as NITI Aayog CEO was announced by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. Mr. Subrahmanyam's appointment is for two years from the date of assumption of the charge of the post.

#### 2) Rajesh Rai

- Rajesh Rai has been appointed as Chairman & Managing Director of Indian Telephone Industries Limited (ITI Ltd), a PSU under the Department of Telecommunications. The Central Government has approved his appointment.
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Rai for a period of five years with effect from the date of his assumption of charge of the post, or till the date of his superannuation, or until further orders, whichever is the earliest. Presently, he is serving as General Manager in Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited.



#### **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

## 1) England, the 76th British Academy Film Awards

- At the Royal Festival Hall in London, England, the 76th British Academy Film Awards, also referred to as the BAFTAs, were presented.
- The award was hosted by actor Richard E Grant, the star-studded ceremony saw the German ant-war film All Quiet on the Western Front winning seven awards, including the two big wins awards, Best Film and Best Director.
- Shaunak Sen's documentary All That Breathes from India was a nominee for the Best Documentary award, which went to Daniel Roher's Navalny.























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# 2) Dadasaheb Phalke Award is the country's highest award

- The Dadasaheb Phalke Award is the country's highest award in the field of cinema. The 2023 winners were revealed by the Directorate of Film Festivals.
- Mumbai will host the 2023 Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival ceremony. Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor won the Best Actor and Best Actress awards at the Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards.

#### **IMPORTANT DAYS**

## 1) International Mother Language Day

- Every year on February 21, the world celebrates International Mother Language Day to encourage linguistic, cultural, and multilingualism variety.
- The aim of the celebrations is to preserve traditional knowledge and cultures through sustainable methods and support multilingualism in societies. In India, we also refer to it as the Matribhasha Diwas.

#### **OBITUARY**

#### 1) Om Prakash Kohli has passed away

- Former Gujarat governor and veteran Bharatiya Janata Party leader Om Prakash Kohli has passed away at the age of 87.
- He was the 19th governor of Gujarat from 2014 to 2019. While presiding as Gujarat governor, he also served as the governor of Madya Pradesh and Goa.
- A former Rajya Sabha member and ex-president of BJP in Delhi, he was also a leading academician.













